Daisuke Higuchi

樋口大輔

BREAK THROUGH

哨聲響起

WHISTLE!

1

哨聲響起 WHISTLE

Presented by:
XenonManga

Number.1

BREAK
THROUGH

樋口大輔
PRESENTED BY
DAISUKE HIGUCHI

KONO HONO WAGATOMO YUI
SUGIURA FUSAINI SASAGU

★本故事純屬虛構，與實際的人物、故事、團體無關。

哨聲響起 WHISTLE!

Number.1

BREAK THROUGH

BREAK THROUGH

STAGE・1 Break Through
STAGE・2 Special Late Night Training
STAGE・3 Us
STAGE・4 For Tomorrow
STAGE・5 The Power of Dreams
STAGE・6 Decisive Battle
STAGE・7 The Breaking Up Of The Soccer Club

YOU DREAM WILL COME TRUE!!

AS LONG AS YOU DON'T GIVE UP...

DONT' GIVE UP ON YOUR DREAMS!

DON'T HESITATE!

BELIEVE!

BELIEVE IN YOUR STRENGTH!

AS LONG AS YOU, BELIEVE

YOUR DREAM WILL DEFINITELY COME TRUE!

NO MATTER WHAT THE CIRCUMS-TANCES

NEVER RETREAT!

AT THE 16 OF NOVEMBER 1997 11:34 (LOCAL TIME) MALAYSIA, THE JAPANESE NATIONAL TEAM FINALLY ENTERED THE WORLD CUP AFTER 44 YEARS OF WAITING.

STAGE.1

BREAK THROUGH

—突破困境—

DA!

703

風 呂

GLUG!

GLUG
GLUG
GLUG

TAP!

146CM
...

序　言 MANGA TALK

SOCCER IS A COOPERATIVE SPORT, WHERE THE ENTIRE TEAM WORKS TOGETHER TO PUT THE BALL THROUGH THE GOAL POSTS. OF COURSE, JUST WHEN TALKING ABOUT IT, IT'S A SIMPLE SPORT. BUT THE TRUTH IS, YOUR OPPONENT WILL OBSTRUCT AND HINDER YOU, SO SHOOTING SUCCESSFULLY IS NOT AN EASY TASK.

THEREFORE, IN ORDER TO GET THE BALL INTO THE GOAL, IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW EVERYONE'S POSITION AND PASS THE BALL WELL, AS WELL AS BE ABLE TO FEINT AND DO COMPLEX CHANGES OF FORMATION.

FURTHERMORE, DUE TO THE COMPLICATED CHANGES IN POSITIONS, AND THE FACT THAT ALL THE PLAYERS OTHER THAN THE GOALKEEPER ARE MOVING ABOUT, IT'S DIFFICULT TO TELL WHO IS WHERE. SOCCER PLAYERS ARE NOT LIKE BASEBALL PLAYERS WHO HAVE FIXED POSITIONS, SO THEY DON'T PARTICULARLY HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT STAYING IN ONE PLACE. ALL THEY HAVE TO DO IS REMEMBER WHICH PLAYER IS IN WHAT POSITION IN THE 4-4-2 OR 3-5-2 FORMATION. NEXT, NOTE HOW PLAYERS GET POINTS AND STEAL THE BALL. ALSO, THE ACTUAL SHOOTING SHOT IS NOT THE ONLY THING TO LOOK AT, BUT PAY ATTENTION ALSO TO THE PROCESS OF GETTING TO THAT POINT.

FOR INSTANCE, SHIGE'S GOAL STARTED FROM WHEN YAMAGUCHI PASSED THE BALL, THE PASS JUST BEFORE THE GOAL SHOT WAS ESPECIALLY BRILLIANT, AND IF YOU CAN APPRECIATE THIS, YOU WILL DEFINITELY FEEL THAT SOCCER IS AN INTERESTING SPORT AND BE ABLE TO GET PLEASURE FROM IT.

BESIDES THE ARM, IN SOCCER IT IS ALL RIGHT TO USE ANY PART OF THE BODY. JUST FOR PASSING THE BALL, YOU COULD USE ANY PART OF THE LEG, AND TOGETHER WITH DIFFERENT ANGLES AND THE AMOUNT OF FORCE YOU USE, YOU COULD PASS THE BALL IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS. SO IF YOU ADD THE PASSING METHODS THAT USE BOTH LEGS AND THE HEAD, WOULDN'T THE TOTAL NUMBER OF WAYS TO PASS BE COUNTLESS? DON'T YOU THINK SOCCER IS VERY INTERESTING

(Winning run)

TOO COOL!

YOUR SMILE...

HOWEVER, WHAT TRULY GIVES ME HAPPINESS IS...

TO WAKE UP TO THE WONDERFUL SMELL OF BREAKFAST IS AN INCOM-PARABLE HAPP-INESS.

ちゃ

WA

-UGH!

STOP SLEEP-TALKING!

YOU HAVE BEEN LIVING WITH ME FOR A WEEK...

OH YEAH...

IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR THINKING I WAS ONE OF YOUR CUSTOMERS!

MY FACE IS MY LIVELI-HOOD!

SHAMELESS THING!

AH? SHO?

HONEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

UMM..

I DIDN'T GET ANY TALLER...

IT'S JUST A MONTH UNTIL THE WORLD CUP IN FRANCE! WHAT TACTICS WILL NEWCOMERS JAPAN USE AGAINST THE POWERFUL ARGENTINA...?

AH! IT'S PRETTY LATE!

GOTTA GET BREAK-FAST!

KOU-ON!!...

BREAKFAST IS READY!

MM M... ...

WAKE UP! BREAKFAST IS GETTING COLD!

MM...

ゆっさ

ゆっさ

はぐ

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ガチ

SAKURAJOSUI MIDDLE SCHOOL

...

YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD BOY ♥

IT'S ALL BECAUSE YOU ARE TOO LAZY AND UNTIDY!

I WAS REALLY SURPRISED WHEN YOU SAID THAT YOU WANTED TO LIVE WITH ME SINCE YOU WERE TRANSFERRING SCHOOLS.

STILL, IT SEEMS THAT YOU'RE THE ONE TAKING CARE OF ME...

CLEANING UP, DOING LAUNDRY, COOKING...

YES!

YOU CAN DO WELL IN THIS SCHOOL'S SOCCER CLUB!

HOPE-FULLY THIS TIME...

AH!

I'M OFF TO SCHOOL!

I FEEL KINDA AWKWARD THIS WAY.

HEHE..

ズカッ
あ〜ん
わ〜く

....
....

PLEASE EXCUSE ME...
カバ

2-A
OH?
IT WAS MY OWN CHOICE...

AH THIS IS IT.

PLEASE COME IN!
KATORI-SENSEI, TRANSFER STUDENT KAZA-MATSURI IS HERE.
コソ
コソ

WELL, NO, YOUR HOME IS IN THIS DISTRICT, SO IT'S NOT STRANGE.
IT IS SURPRISING THAT YOU TRANSFERRED HERE FROM MUSASHI-NOMORI, A SCHOOL WITH MANY ACHIEVE-MENTS.
DID YOUR PARENTS MAKE YOU TRANSFER HERE?
MAYBE SINCE MUSASHI IS A BOARDING SCHOOL...
NO...

HERE,
AS LONG AS I WORK HARD, MAYBE I CAN BECOME A STARTER.

うぉ

THE GOAL POST IS SET UP IN A CORNER OF THE SCHOOL, THERE'S NO GROUND SPECIALTY FOR SOCCER...
PROBABLY MOST SCHOOL LIKE THIS!

HERE, I MUST BECOME A STARTER!
PREVIOUSLY IN MUSASHINOMORI, AS A SUBSTITUTE PLAYER, I HAD NO CHANCE AT ALL...

WHO IS THAT GUY?

お!

お!

UH, NO

KAZA-MATSURI-KUN, DID YOU SAY SOME-THING?

YUKO-SENSEI!

AH, HE'S WEARING MUSASHINOMORI UNIFORM.

WOW, HE MADE IT EVEN THOUGH HE'S SO SHORT...

.....

.....

THEIR PLAYERS ARE TALENTS FROM ALL OVER JAPAN, SO OF COURSE THEY'RE MUCH STRONGER THAN WE ARE.

MUSASHI-NOMORI IS IN THE SAME DISTRICT AS WE ARE, BUT WHILE THEY'RE THE DISTRICT REPRESEN-TATIVE, WE ONLY MADE IT TO THE 2ND QUALIFIER MATCH.

THEY'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG.

SENSEI! SENSEI! WAIT A SECOND!

SINCE, I'M NOT EXPERIENCED IN SOCCER, PLEASE TRAIN THEM WELL IN MY PLACE...

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

LET'S JUST WATCH HIM PRACTICE FOR AWHILE!

HE JUST ARRIVED.

WHAT IS IT, CAP-TAIN?

WHEW

Welcome!

KAZAMATSURI SHO!

FEEL THE SAME WAY

WOW...

146 CM.

OH, YOU'RE PRETTY SHORT! HOW TALL ARE YOU?

YES...

I'M THE TEACHER IN CHARGE OF YOUR CLASS, KATORI YUKO.

PLEASED TO MEET YOU♥

EVEN THOUGH THIS SCHOOL'S WEAKEST CLUB IS THE SOCCER CLUB...

SORRY TO INTERRUPT!

I JUST HAPPEN TO BE IN CHARGE OF THE SOCCER CLUB!

HURRY AND SIT DOWN FOR CLASS!

TO TRANSFER HERE FROM THE FAMOUS SOCCER SCHOOL, I'M SO MOVED!

EVERYONE WORK HARD!

AH? STAR-TER?

YOU MUST JOIN IN THE CLUB!

AFTER SCHOOL,

BUT NOW WE HAVE ONE OF MUSASHINOMORI'S STARTER PLAYERS, IT'S NO LONGER A DREAM FOR US TO PLAY IN THE PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP!

MUSASHINOMORI DID APPROACH HIM BEFORE, BUT FOR SOME REASON, HE CHOSE TO COME TO OUR SCHOOL.

OF COURSE KAZAMATSURI-SAN WOULD BE ABLE TO PICK HIM OUT AT ONE GLANCE!

OH..

AH, HE'S MIZUNO TATSUYA, 2ND YEAR.

MAY I ASK WHO THAT ESPECIALLY GOOD PLAYER IS?

CURRENTLY HIS POSITION IS CENTER BUT HE'S THE KIND OF PLAYER WHO CAN TAKE ANY POSITION.

WE ALL FEEL THAT SOME RESPECT IS DESERVED...

THAT'S BECAUSE, JUST HEARING THE WORD "MUSASHINOMORI",

AH, HA HA!

WE ARE BOTH 2ND YEAR STUDENTS.

BY THE WAY, WHY ARE YOU SPEAKING FORMALLY TO ME?

OI! MORINAGA!

DON'T SAY THAT, I..

EXCUSE ME, KAZAMATSURI-SAN.

STOP SLACKING OFF! HURRY AND CONTINUE PRACTICE.

1°

AH!

OH!

HOW DO I TELL THEM THAT I WAS JUST A SUBSTITUTE.

IT'S ON LEVEL WITH MUSASHINOMORI

IMPRESSIVE! HIS SKILL IS BEYOND THE OTHERS,

AH!

I'M MORINAGA, IN 2ND YEAR!

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

CAN I ASK..

YES?

SINCE I COULDN'T EVEN BE A 3RD STRING PLAYER, I HAD NO CHANCE OF JOINING THE TRAINING.

I'M NOT TALL, SO UPON JOINING I WAS IMMEDIATELY RELEGATED TO BEING A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE 3RD STRING PLAYERS..

THE ONLY TIME I COULD TOUCH THE BALL WAS WHEN PRACTICING LIFTINGS.

ALL I EVER DID WAS 10KM TRAINING RUNS.

....
....

LIFTING.

WHEN I FIRST STARTED, I COULDN'T KEEP IT UP FOR LONG...

WOW! HE REACHED 1000!

SO, EVERY -DAY

I KEPT DOING THE SAME THING.

I THOUGHT I WOULD BE ABLE TO GAIN RECOGNITION!

AS LONG AS I COULD LIFT WELL...

AS LONG AS I WAS GOOD AT IT...

AH!

AH..

IT'S NO WONDER SINCE HE'S FROM MUSASHI-NOMORI!!

PLEASE JOIN US KAZAMATSURI -KUN, LET'S PLAY 5-ON-5 MINI GAME!

I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT

PLEASE, SHOW US MUSASHI-NOMORI TALENT ON THE SOCCER FIELD!

ALL TOGETHER!

HEY WHY PRACTICE MANOUVERING THE BALL BY YOURSELF,

UH?

WA!

AH? I STOLE IT?

ALL I CAN DO IS TRY

PII!

I HAVE NEVER PLAYED A GAME BEFORE

THAT GUY ISN'T A STARTER.

YES, YES IT COULD HAPPEN TO ANYONE.

IT MUST BE CUZ HE'S NOT FEELING WELL!

THAT'S IT!

WHY ARE YOU GUYS SO QUIET?

EH...

DAN

IT'S HARDER THAN I THOUGHT.

SSHII——————N

I KNOW SOMEONE ON THE MUSASHI-NOMORI REGULAR TEAM.

HE SAYS HE'S NEVER HEARD OF THE NAME KAZAMATSURI.

KAZA-

GIVE UP?

I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
I DON'T WANT TO PLAY SOCCER ANYMORE...

AH!

NOT PLAY SOCCER?

I'M SORRY!
I WAS A SUBSTI-TUTE IN MUSASHI-NOMORI FOR THE 3RD STRING PLAYERS

I'VE CAUSED TROUBLE FOR EVERY-ONE!
I'M SORRY...

IT WAS THEM WHO ASSUMED I WAS A STARTER.
SO BEING DISSA-POINTED IS THEIR FAULT

KUSU-
WHY DID I APOLO-GIZE?
IDIOT!

KAZA-MATSURI-KUN!

I...

ペコ

KOU-ON!!, DON'T KEEP YOUR CLIENT WAITING!

AH!

WHAT AN ADORABLE CHILD.

YES..

ARE YOU SURE...?

SHO!

OH, YOUR YOUNGER BRO-THER?

PLEASE EXCUSE ME FOR A MOMENT, MADAM.

KOU -ON!!!

WHY DID I TRANSFER SCHOOLS?

I SHOULD STOP THINKING THIS WAY!

IT WAS BECUZ I DIDN'T WANT TO GIVE MYSELF UP...

BECUZ I LIKE SOCCER.

HMM?

IT'S NOTHING!

BACK SO SOON? WHAT ABOUT THE CLUB?

BECUZ...

WHAT'S UP?

I DON'T WANT EVERYONE TO LOSE FAITH IN ME.

AT THE VERY LEAST I WANT TO REACH THEIR LEVEL.

SO THAT THEY CAN ACCEPT ME!

SHO...

WHERE COULD HE BE?

HE DIDN'T GO BACK TO OUR PARENT'S PLACE, NOR TO MY PLACE.

AGH..

我要變強！

I WANT TO BE STRONGER!

NO! IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT! EVERYTHING WAS CAUSED BY ME...

NO, IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY, BECAUSE I WORK AS A MALE ESCORT EVEN THOUGH I'M SUPPOSED TO BE A FATHER FIGURE, MAKING SHO UNHAPPY .

I'LL DO ANYTHING IN MY POWER TO HELP!

REA-LLY?

HE'S SO CUTE!

WHOSE OLDER BROTHER IS HE?

SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED

I APOLOGIZE, HIS SKIPPING CLASS IS MY RESPONSIBILITY!

MY HASTINESS WAS THE CAUSE OF MY BROTHER'S HURT!

I DON'T WANT TO HAVE ANY REGRETS!

I HAVE TO SUCCEED!

I WANT TO CHANGE MYSELF I WANT TO BECOME A SOCCER PLAYER..

IF I GIVE UP IT'S ALL OVER!

I DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP THE SOCCER I LOVE!

AH?

にっこり

THEN, PLEASE CLOSE ONE EYE WITH REGARDS TO SHO.

I FELL FOR IT!

THIS GUY!

I WASN'T MISTAKEN IN JUDGING YOU, KATORI-SENSEI, TO BE A FINE WOMAN.

Y.. YES..

EVEN IF MY LITTLE BROTHER DOESN'T ATTEND FOR AWHILE, AS HIS TEACHER-IN-CHARGE I HOPE YOU CAN OVER-LOOK THIS, YES?

DAY 2

2-A

SAKURAJOSUI MIDDLE SCHOOL

NO ACTUALLY, YESTERDAY WAS ALL A MISUNDER-STANDING.

THAT LIAR DESERVES EXACTLY WHAT HE GETS.

MIZUNO-KUN!

AH..

SENSEI, IS KAZAMATSURI SKIPPING CLASS?

HMPH! THAT JERK SHOULD MIND HIS OWN BUSINESS!

PERVERT!

PLEASE DON'T LOOK AT FEMALE STUDENT'S THAT WAY!

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS ARE DEVELOPING SO WELL NOWADAYS, THEY ARE ALREADY VERY FEMININE!

WHAT?

SENSEI.

WA AHHH!

THE TRUTH IS THAT MY LITTLE BROTHER IS A BOY WITH INNER STRENGTH, HE'LL CERTAINLY REJOIN THE SOCCER CLUB.

AT THAT TIME I'LL BE ENTRU-STING HIM TO YOUR CARE AGAIN.

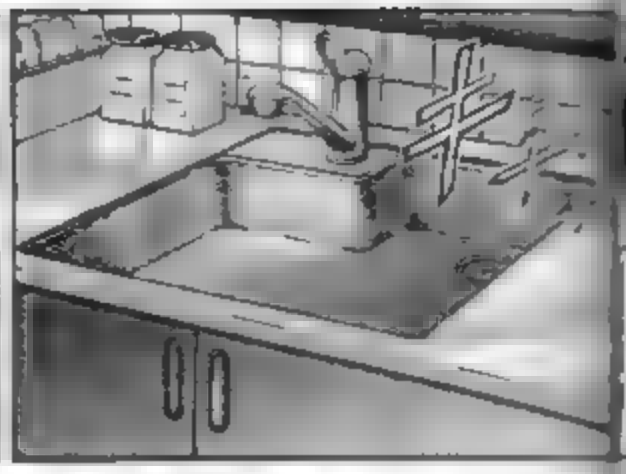
AA..

PINK LIPSTICK DOESN'T SUIT YOU, ORANGE WOULD BE BETTER.

I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU AS A PRESENT NEXT TIME.

WHAT IS IT NOW?

AH. YES ONE MORE THING.

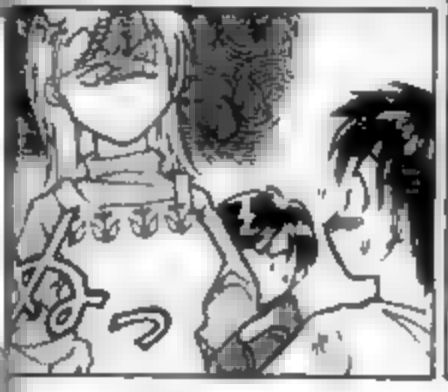


DO YOU GUYS WANT TO PLAY, TOO?
IT'S REA -LLY FUN!

THAT HURT ---

AH?

IS THIS THE WRONG HOUSE?
MAYBE IT'LL SNOW TOMORROW.
IT'S SO CLEAN AND NEAT!



TRY YOU BEST!
-YOUR BROTHER

KOU -ONII---

A RICE, RICE BALL LIKE A SOCCER BALL...? IT'S HUGE!
WHAT IS TH S THING?
WHAT'S INSIDE IT?

EVEN IF I HAVE TO SKIP CLASS, I NEED TO PRACTICE SOCCER.
IF I CAN'T PLAY SOCCER, HAVING TRANSFERRED TO THIS SCHOOL WOULD BE POINTLESS.

THE PARK ISN'T HERE JUST FOR YOU!
IT'S DANGEROUS FOR THE LITTLE KIDS!

KOU -ONII ISN'T HOME?
I HAVE TO TELL HIM SOME -THING...

I'M HOME!

AND RUN A BIT FURTHER.

I'LL DO EXTRA TODAY,

HA

HA

I

THE RICEBALL WAS DELICIOUS, THANK YOU

KOU-ON!!

KAZAMATSURI?

A WEEK HAS GONE BY...

IT WAS SENSE! WHO ASSUMED THAT HE WAS A STARTER AND ANNOUNCED IT TO EVERYONE.

HE DIDN'T TELL US ANYTHING CLEARLY

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT

HE WAS SO EMBARASSED, OF COURSE HE'D AVOID SCHOOL.

I HEARD HE TOOK SICK LEAVE.

I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT HE WAS SKIPPING SCHOOL AS WELL AS THE CLUB.

SORRY

THE TOURNAMENT STARTS IN ONE MONTH'S TIME!

WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF BEFORE MINDING OTHERS!

DON'T YOU GUYS HAVE ANYTHING BETTER TO DO?

MIZUNO-KUN!

BUT YOU'RE STILL BELOW MUSASHINOMORI'S LEVEL.

YOU SEEM TO HAVE IMPROVED SOME!

YOU'RE BACK!

THANKS

AH, NOTHING. THE SHOWER IS READY.

WHAT'S UP?

I LOST!

あっさり

YOU WON?

I MET SOMEONE FROM THE CLUB TODAY

AND ...

I WANTED TO TEST IF I HAD IMPROVED, SO I ASKED HIM TO PLAY AGAINST ME.

OH..

HOWEVER, I'M VERY HAPPY.

SHO!

HIS NAME IS MIZUNO, HE'S VERY GOOD AT SOCCER.

I HAD NEVER THOUGHT HE'D AGREE.

MIZUNO -KUN.

...

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE PRACTICING THIS HARD, I THOUGHT YOU'D HAVE GIVEN UP.

I JUST HAPPENED TO BE PASSING BY...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

COMPETING IN DRIBBLING PAST EACH OTHER'S GUARD.

ONE -ON- ONE!

COULD YOU PLAY A GAME WITH ME?

NO PROBEM.

I'M HOME!

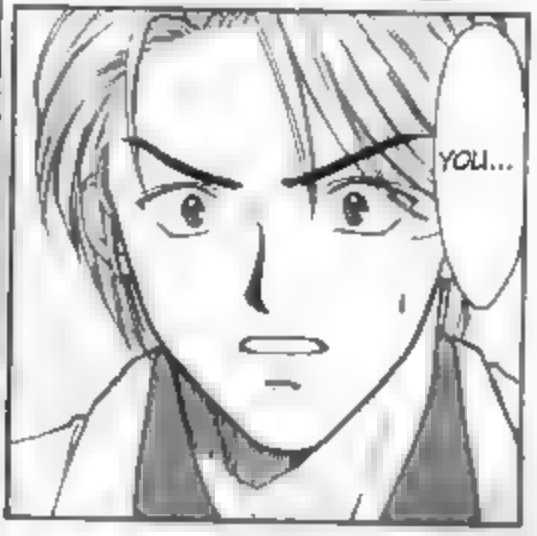
I'LL PLAY YOU..

IF I SEE EVEN THIS AS A MAJOR DIFFICULTY... WHAT HOPE DO I HAVE FOR THE FUTURE?
MY FINAL GOAL IS A VERY HIGH WALL.
THIS IS JUST... A SMALL OBSTACLE...
FRANKLY— I TRULY RESPECT YOU.
GIVE ME YOUR HAND

ポロポロ
MY FEINTS WERE COMPLETELY USELESS AGAINST HIM...

I NEED TO WORK HARDER...
SINCE, I'M SO WEAK...
IF I WANT TO STAND ON A LEVEL WITH MIZUNO-KUN...

ポタッ
I'M PATHETHIC, I COULDN'T GET PAST HIM EVEN ONCE.....


YOU...

I HAVE COMPLETE FAITH IN YOU!

SO HAVE FAITH IN YOURSELF, SHO!

HAVE FAITH IN YOURSELF!

YOU DON'T WANT TO ADMIT DEFEAT EITHER, ISN'T THAT SO?

YOU REALLY LIKE SOCCER, DON'T YOU?

SHO!

BEFORE YOU GOT IN, DIDN'T PEOPLE SAY THAT YOU'D NEVER MAKE IT TO MUSASHINOMORI.

I GAVE UP MY STRUGGLE...

YOU'RE GOOD-LOOKING AND CARING,

OK, IT'S DONE.

KOU-ONNI..

YOU RESPECT ME?

IT CAN'T BE.

BUT SINCE, YOU'RE SHORT, YOU HAD NO CHANCE TO PLAY,

YOU REFUSE TO COMPROMISE ABOUT SOCCER... YET MOM AND DAD WANT YOU TO GRADUATE, SO YOU STUDIED HARD TO GET INTO MUSASHINOMORI...

EVEN THIS DIDN'T MAKE YOU GIVE UP, SO YOU WERE DETERMINED TO TRANSFER...

EARLIER, I HAD DREAMS TOO, BUT I GAVE UP ON THEM BECAUSE IT WAS DIFFICULT

THOUGH I DO LIKE THIS JOB.

I ENDED UP BETRAYING MOM AND DAD'S HOPES AND RAN OFF TO BE A MALE ESCORT.

HOWEVER, YOU'RE DIFFERENT.

I COULDN'T HAVE DONE SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

YOU ARE GOOD AT LIFTING, AREN'T YOU?

A VIDEO?

I'M SURE YOU CAN MASTER THE SPECIAL TECHNIQUES IN THAT VIDEO.

OF COURSE!

YOU KNOW QUITE A BIT OF SOCCER!

UM, I'M NOT BAD...

AH!

I CAN'T DO IT LIKE IN THE VIDEO AT ALL.

AM I USING TOO MUCH FORCE?

IF YOUR OPPONENT IS MORE SKILLFUL THAN YOU ARE,

KOU-ONII...

YOU HAVE TO PRACTICE WHAT YOU ARE BEST AT, AND USE IT AGAINST HIM!

I WON'T GIVE UP!

THE ROAD TO VICTORY 之路

THIS IS IT!

ふっふっふっ

SECRET WEAPON?

BROTHER, YOU'RE ACTING STRANGE!

AH?

GOOD! ONII-SAN WILL GIVE YOU A SECRET WEAPON!

KAZAM-
ATSURI
YOU.

PLAY WITH ME AGAIN. .
ARE YOU NUTS?
YOU MEAN, YOU'VE BEEN PRACTICING TILL NOW FROM YESTERDAY?

INTER-
ESTING!
THIS TIME I WILL BREAK PAST YOUR COVER!

A LITTLE HARDER
MORE,
MORE QUIC-KLY
QUICK-LY
USING THE CALF TO FEEL AND KICK...
JUST A LIGHT TOUCH!

MIZUNO -KUN.

HE'S NOT HERE..
CAN'T BLAME HIM, SINCE HE LOST SO BADLY YESTERDAY...

WHICH SIDE WILL IT BE?

FOU

UP!

STRAIGHT AHEAD?

RIGHT?

LEFT?

WHAT THE?

!!

THE GOAL!

AA!

I SEE IT!!

I DID IT!

FINALLY I BROKE PAST MIZUNO-KUN'S GUARD!

HA!

AND YOU EVEN SHOT FOR THE GOAL.

THOUGH IT WAS A BIT OFF

I DID IT!!!

WHY ARE YOU THANKING ME?

YOU OUGHT TO BE PROUD OF YOURSELF

LET GO!

THAT HURTS!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! I'VE LEARNT HOW TO DO IT! THANK YOU SO MUCH!

AND JUST A WEEK AGO, HE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO FEINT

EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN IN THE SELECTION FOR THE JUNIOR CUP CHAMPIONSHIP,

I'M SO TIRED.

THIS GUY DID IT

I WAS JUST BORED.

BECAUSE YOU WERE WILLING TO PRACTICE WITH ME!

THAT'S WHY

I...

XENONMANGA

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SPECIAL MIDNIGHT TRAINING

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 1
CHAPTER 2

Presented by:

XenonManga

*ODEN IS A JAPANESE HOTPOT DISH WITH DIFFERENT INGREDIENTS STEWED IN BROTH
YAKITORI IS GRILLED CHICKEN ON SKEWERS.

STAGE.2
SPECIAL MIDNIGHT TRAINING

OJI-SAN!
THANK YOU!
I SAID GIVE IT TO ME...
THE CABLE!
OK OYA-SAN!
PULL
CALL ME OYA-SAN!
DON'T CALL ME OJI-SAN,
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS
EVEN THOUGH THE FOOD'S THE BEST
FIRST-TIME CUSTOMERS WILL BE FRIGHTENED AWAY BY YOUR EVIL FACE
OYA-SAN'S THE SAME AS ALWAYS!
IRRITATED
むす
RUSTLE
WE'RE HERE FOR ODEN!
OYA-SAN!
COME IN!
EH?
KICK!
BOUNCE!

A TV?
TA
DA
I WANT TO WATCH A VIDEO AS I PRACTICE.
PRACTICE?
I FORGOT THAT A TV NEEDS ELECTRICITY
WHY DID YOU DRAG OUT SUCH A HEAVY THING?
THAT'S WHY YOU NEED ELECTRICITY? BUT WHAT'S ALL THIS FOR?
RATHER THAN PRACTICING BY YOURSELF, WOULDN'T YOU IMPROVE FASTER BY TRAINING WITH OTHERS?
I'M PRACTICING WITH THIS!
EH?
GIVE IT TO ME.
SUDDENLY
BALL KICKING GAME...
A BALL-KICKING GAME?
PUFF

ARGENTINA BATISTUTA
ITALY DEL PIERO
SPAIN RAUL
FRANCE DJORKAEFF
YUGOSLAVIA SAVICEVIC
NIGERIA KANU
ENGLAND SHEARER
FRANCE ZIDANE
BRAZIL RONALDO
IT'S NO LONGER A DISTANT DREAM ...
THE WORLD CUP ...
THE FIELD WHERE THE WORLD'S BEST PLAYERS GATHER.... JAPAN IS STANDING THERE TOO!
DREAMS HAVE A CHANCE OF COMING TRUE... AS LONG AS YOU FOLLOW YOUR HEART, THE DREAMS WON'T STAY FAR AWAY.
GOTTA PRACTICE!
NOW IS NOT THE TIME TO DAY-DREAM!
はっ HA
SHO'S IMAGINED SELF 190 CM TALL.

WHAT'S A LITTLE KID DOING OUT PLAYING SOCCER THIS LATE?
AN EXTENSION CORD?
OH, IT'S CALLED SOCCER?
WHEN HE WAS ONLY ABOUT MY AGE, HE'D ALREADY PASSED THE FIRST TEST OF FLAMENGO!*
EXCITED!
RONALDO'S FANTASTIC!
AH!
A FEINT!

*NOTE: FLAMENGO IS A FAMOUS BRAZILIAN TEAM

WATCHING AND DOING TURNS OUT TO BE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS,
THE TECHNIQUES OF FIRST-CLASS PLAYERS ARE HARD TO LEARN, AFTER ALL.
THE WORLD CUP'S NOT FAR OFF!
HEY KID, WORK HARD!
SO I HAVE TO USE FEINTS, AND AGILITY TO GET PAST THE OPPONENT'S GUARD!
SINCE I'M SHORT, I'M AT A DISADVANTAGE WHEN ATTACKING DIRECTLY.
THAT KID! HE'S TOO FUNNY ...
BU HYA HYA
GU HAW HAW
STOP THE BALL BEFORE THE OPPONENT, AND DO LIKE THIS ..
FEINT...
TAP
THIS MOVE IS REALLY DIFFICULT ...
PYON
WE'RE OFF.
THANKS FOR COMING
IT'S COLD EVEN THOUGH IT'S SPRING.
WE COME

USES THE OTHER LEG TO KICK THE BALL
FROM BEHIND THE OUT-STRETCHED LEG ...
QUICKLY USE THE INSIDE ...
RONALDO'S TWISTING MOVEMENT,
FIRST LURE THE OPPONENT OVER. THEN, WHEN HE CLOSES IN ...
WA HA HA HA
THUD!
WHAM!
HEE
HEE
HEH
HYA HYA HYA

OYA-SAN,

HERE
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS.
THANK YOU.
I'M DONE PRAC-TICING.
AH
A KID SHOULDN'T BE BOTHERING WITH THAT!

I SAID THERE'S NO NEED AND I MEANT IT!
BUT ...
GLARE
THERE'S NO NEED!
I'LL HELP YOU.
GACHA
CHE
BUT I'LL FEEL BAD OTHER-WISE

.....
IF POSSIBLE, I'D LIKE TO BORROW YOUR ELECTRICITY IN THE FUTURE AS WELL ...
THAT'S NOT IT WHAT I MEAN TO SAY IS

KICK
IT'S ALREADY BEEN FIVE HOURS ...

SPLASH
SPLASH

HUFF
PUFF
HUFF

IT WON'T BE EFFECTIVE IF I'M NOT PREPARED FOR THE OPPONENT TRYING TO COME AND STEAL THE BALL.
BUT BLINDLY TRAINING ISN'T THE SOLUTION EITHER.

IF I FORCE IT TOO MUCH, MY MOVEMENTS BECOME UNNATURAL, AND IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO LEARN ANY FEINTS ...
MY REFLEXES AREN'T GOOD, SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO PRACTICE UNTIL IT BECOMES MY BODY'S NATURAL RESPONSE

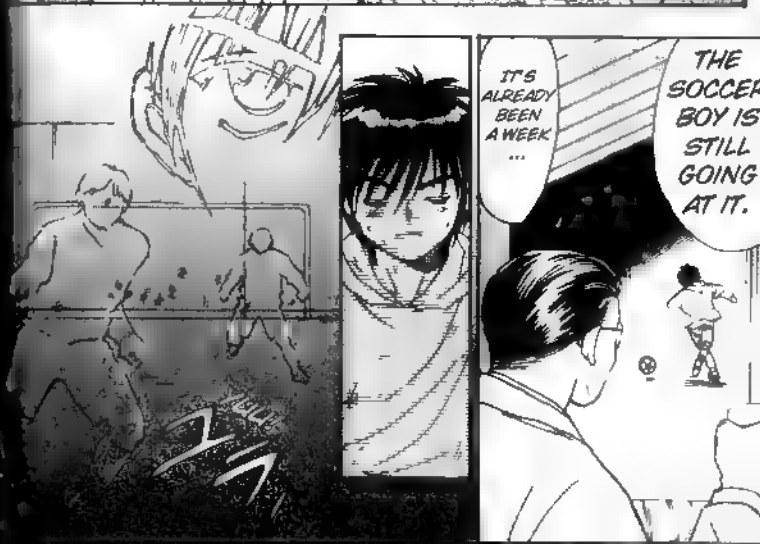
WHAT'S HE GOING TO USE THIS TIME?
DOES HE WANT TO TRY ANOTHER ROUND WITH ME?
SO KAZAMATSURI WAS COMING HERE WHEN HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN SCHOOL.

SO THIS THING IS YOUR OPPONENT ?
IT'S PRETTY BIG.
I'M GOING TO SET UP THE SHOP. COME GIVE ME A HAND!
ABOUT FACE
OKAY!
SIR!
I WANT TO WATCH BASE-BALL!
I USED TO PLAY SOCCER MYSELF!
IS HE OYA-SAN'S GRAND-SON?
HOW CUTE

OYA-SAN ...
HI.
HI.
HI.
THANK YOU.
WHY DO YOU WORK SO HARD ALL BY YOUR-SELF?
SO I HAVE TO WORK HARDER THAN MOST PEOPLE.
MY SOCCER SKILLS ARE POOR ...

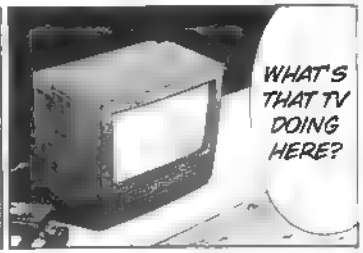
LATELY, OYA-SAN SEEMS TO BE PRETTY HAPPY!

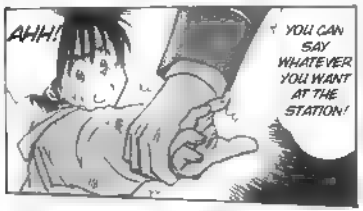
IS THAT SO?
I'M AS I USUALLY AM. I'M NO DIFFERENT FROM MY NORMAL SELF.
IRRITATED


IT'S ALREADY BEEN A WEEK ...
THE SOCCER BOY IS STILL GOING AT IT.

AND...
WHAT'RE YOU DOING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?
HEY!

"FROM MY HOUSE"? THAT'S SUSPI-CIOUS ...
I BROUGHT IT FROM MY HOUSE ..


WHAT'S THAT TV DOING HERE?


AHH!
YOU CAN SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT AT THE STATION!

LATELY THERE HAVE BEEN MANY THEFTS BY TEENS IN THIS AREA ...
THAT'S NOT IT! I...

カバ
PLEASE WAIT A MO-MENT!
GRAB!

ALRIGHT!
I SUC-CEEDED 5 TIMES OUT OF 10!

THIS BOY IS IN NO WAY SUSPICIOUS !
OYA-SAN !
HE'S MY GRAND-SON !

WITH THOSE STUPID CRIM-INALS !
DON'T MIX THIS CHILD UP ...
ANGRY!

EX-CUSE ME
... IT'S LATE, THE TWO OF YOU PLEASE BE CARE-FUL.

I, I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS YOUR GRAND-SON
I, I'M VERY SORRY ...

HE'S HERE WAITING FOR ME TO CLOSE UP!
YOU'RE THE OWNER OF THE ODEN STALL ...
AND PRAC-TICING SOCCER WHILE HE'S AT IT !

OYA -SAN !
CHE!
WHAT DOES HE THINK HE'S DOING?! SUSPECTING PEOPLE WITHOUT ANY EVID-ENCE ! TOO IM-PULSIVE !

THANKS FOR BE-LIEVING IN ME ...

THANK YOU !

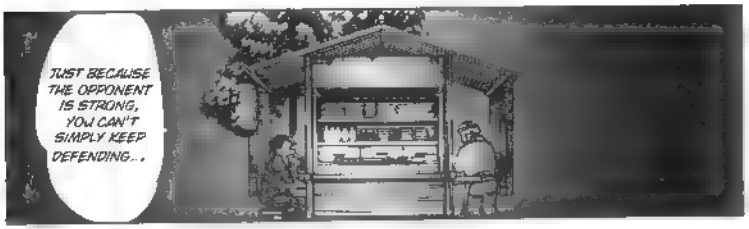
I'LL TREAT YOU TO SOME ODEN ...
RUSTLE!

IS THERE A THIEF IN THIS WORLD STUPID ENOUGH TO KEEP BRINGING OUT THE STUFF HE STOLE?
I KNEW AT FIRST GLANCE THAT YOU'RE NOT A BAD KID!

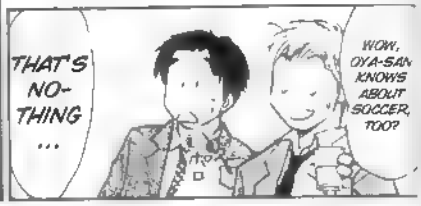
AFTER ALL THAT SOCCER, AREN'T YOU HUNGRY?
COME ON!
THAT'S TRUE

OYA-SAN!
VRRRROOM!
AGHH!
WHAP!
STUPID OLD MAN! LET GO OF ME!
*TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: KUSOU IS A JAPANESE SWEARWORD WHICH IS OFTEN TRANSLATED AS SHIT
VROOM!
B-BUT ...
HURRY AND CATCH THAT OTHER GUY!
KUSOU!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME!
WHAM!
WA-ARGH ...
WHOOSH!
BANCHO

!
RUN FOR IT!
TROUBLE!
WHY YOU! STEALING MY MONEY ...
*TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: TEME IS THE VULGAR OR INSULTING FORM OF THE PRONOUN "YOU" AND IS APPROXIMATELY EQUIVALENT TO BASTARD OR ASSHOLE IN ENGLISH.
TEME!
IDIOT!
WIMP!
WHAM!!
WAHH!



BON
THAT'S TRUE. BUT THEY ONLY HAVE ONE CENTRE* SO IT'S TOUGH FOR THEM TO PLAY THAT WAY.
YOU'VE GOT TO GO ON THE OFFENCE. WHAT JAPAN USES IN THE WORLD CUP IS THE 4-4-2 FORM-ATION.



*CENTRE...AKA CENTRE HALF, THE PLAYER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FIELD WHO TAKES CHARGE OF DEFENCE, YAMAGUCHI SOHIRO IS THE MOST WELL-KNOWN JAPANESE CENTRE.

STAGE.3 US

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 1
CHAPTER 3

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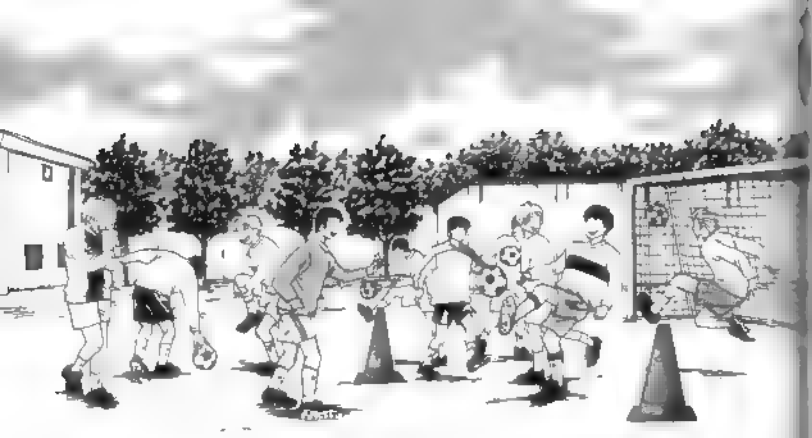
TO WORLD-CLASS SOCCER PLAYERS, THE WORLD CUP IS AN EVENT THAT ALLOWS THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD TO EXPERIENCE THE BEST LEVEL OF SOCCER SKILL. NOW LET'S INTRODUCE THE PLAYERS THAT SHO ADMIRES. FIRST IS BRAZIL'S RONALDO, AT 17 HE BECAME A PLAYER ON THE BRAZILIAN NATIONAL TEAM, AND WAS A MAJOR SCORER DURING THE HOLLAND AND SPAIN COMPETITIONS. AT THIS TIME HE'S PLAYING FOR INTER IN THE ITALIAN SERIE A. HIS SOCCER SKILLS ARE FIRST-CLASS IN EVERY ASPECT, AND AS LONG AS THE BALL IS IN HIS CONTROL, IT SEEMS THAT NO ONE CAN STEAL IT. NEXT IS ITALY'S DEL PIERO, ALTHOUGH HE HAS A SMALL BUILD, HE HAS VERY GOOD JUDGEMENT. IN PARTICULAR, HIS SHOOTING FROM THE LEFT SIDE OF THE PENALTY AREA IS KNOWN AS THE "INVINCIBLE GOAL SHOOT", AS HE CAN MAKE THE GOAL WITHOUT FAIL. ARGENTINA'S BATISTUTA IS ESPECIALLY WORTH WATCHING WHEN HE SHOOTS FOR THE GOAL WITH HIS RIGHT LEG. THERE'S ALSO FRANCE'S ZIDANE AND DJORKAEFF, ENGLAND'S SHEARER, SPAIN'S RAUL, NIGERIA'S KANU, AND MANY MORE WHO ARE ALL EXCELLENT PLAYERS.

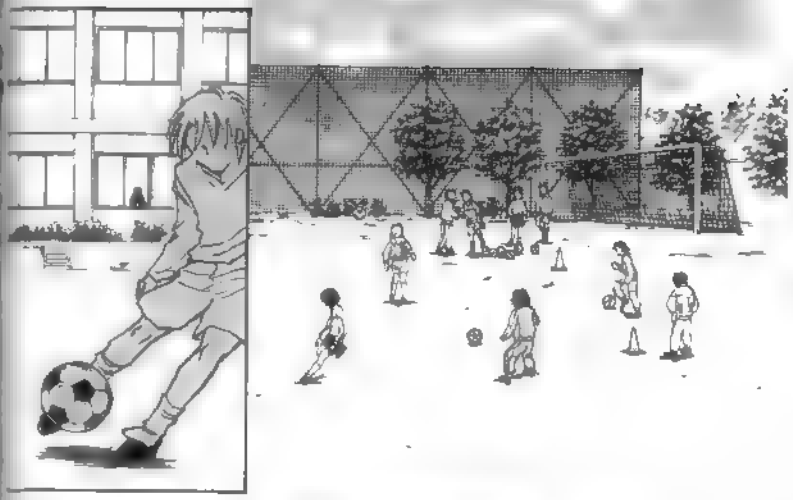
WINNING RUN
ARGENTINA BATISTUTA
ITALY DEL PIERO
SPAIN RAUL
FRANCE DJORKAEFF
YUGOSLAVIA SAVICEVIC
NIGERIA KANU
ENGLAND SHEARER
FRANCE ZIDANE
BRAZIL RONALDO
IT'S NO LONGER A DISTANT DREAM ...
THE WORLD CUP ...
THE FIELD WHERE THE WORLD'S BEST PLAYERS GATHER
JAPAN IS STANDING THERE TOO!
DREAMS HAVE A CHANCE OF COMING TRUE. AS LONG AS YOU FOLLOW YOUR HEART, THE DREAMS WON'T STAY FAR AWAY

IF YOU WANT TO SLEEP THAT MUCH,
WHY DON'T YOU GO DO IT IN THE HALLWAY!?
IT'S ALREADY BEEN TWO WEEKS SINCE YOU TRANSFERRED HERE. YOU'RE FAR TOO RELAXED!
DO YOU COME TO SCHOOL JUST TO SLEEP?
ZZZ
IG-NORE HIM!
KAZA-MATSURI CAN STILL SLEEP WHEN HE'S STANDING.
WHAT'S ON HIS MIND? IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HE'S GOING TO RE-JOIN THE SOCCER CLUB AT ALL.
SO I HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO APOLO-GISE ...
KATORI-SENSEI ...
LET'S GO GET SOME BUNS, SINCE CLASS ENDED EARLY!

WE'RE SO DEVOTED TO WATCHING THE OLYMPIC GAMES
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
NOR WHAT TO WATCH
THWACK
AA!
ZZZ
English

2-A
HEY, IT'S KAZAMA-TSURI!
NOD
NOD
HE'S BEING PUNISHED, ISN'T HE?
TO BE ABLE TO SLEEP WHILE STANDING, AMAZING ...
I HAVE A CAMERA!
AH FORGET IT
SLUMP
THUD!
WAAH, KAZAMA-TSURI!
NURSE'S OFFICE
IT'S NOT SERIOUS, AS HE DIDN'T HIT HIS HEAD TOO HARD ....
THERE'S JUST A SWELLING
HE HASN'T WOKEN UP YET, IT SEEMS HE'S VERY TIRED.
ARE THE SOCCER-CLUB PRACTICES THAT TIRING?
AH!
NOT AT ALL.
OH, REALLY?
THEN, WHAT'S HE BEEN UP TO, TO GET THIS EXHAUSTED?
AFTER SCHOOL
I OUGHT TO TAKE A BREAK
I'M BEAT..
I CAN'T BELIEVE I SLEPT TILL SCHOOL WAS OVER.
HAVE I BEEN PUSHING MYSELF TOO HARD WITH THE TRAINING?
I APOLOGISE FOR SLEEPING SO LONG!
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF





YES, MORINAGA-KUN, THANKS FOR HELPING TO GET HIM TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE.
I THOUGHT HE HAD SOME KIND OF ILLNESS. IT WAS PRETTY SCARY.

SO THAT WAS THE REASON.
AH? LACK OF SLEEP?

UH ... THAT WAS ACTUALLY ...
WHOOSH!

SWOOSH
CAPTAIN ...
MAYBE IT WAS CAUSE HE FAILED TO DAZZLE US,
SO HE'S BEEN DESTROYING HIMSELF GOING WILD IN THE STREETS AT NIGHT?

"LOUSY AIM"?
WHAT KIND OF LOUSY AIM WAS THAT!?
THAT HURT! WHO KICKED THAT BALL?

WHAM

SLAP

GRIP!

THE SOCCER CLUB ...

SOMEONE WHO IS AS BAD AS I AM AT SOCCER MUST TRAIN HIMSELF RELENTLESSLY.
I CAN'T SLACK OFF IF I WANT TO JOIN THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

*TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: KISAMA, IS ANOTHER VULGAR OR INSULTING FORM OF "YOU", IT IS USED TO INDICATE HATRED OR SPITE.

IMPOSSIBLE?
WHAT'S THE POINT OF PRACTICING?! AS LONG AS MUSASHINOMORI IS IN OUR DISTRICT, WE HAVE NO CHANCE OF WINNING! EVEN IF WE TRY OUR BEST, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
KISAMA, WHAT DID YOU SAY!
KA
A 30-MINUTE GAME OF 5-ON-5, IN A WEEK'S TIME.
A MATCH?
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, THEN LET'S HAVE A MATCH.
W-WHAT?
SURPRISE
CAPTAIN.
I UNDERSTAND.
SMILE

ESPECIALLY SINCE A MEDIOCRE SOCCER CLUB LIKE THIS ONE ONLY GETS A CORNER OF THE SCHOOL FIELD TO PRACTICE IN
IF YOU GUYS ARE JUST FOOLING AROUND, WHY DON'T YOU GET OUT OF THE WAY? YOU'RE DISRUPTING MY TRAINING.
EH? DON'T DRAG ME INTO IT,
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
MIZUNO! N-NO! WE WERE JUST...

OR ANY SENSE OF DUTY AS CAPTAIN!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY SKILL AT ALL...
YOUR ONLY ACHIEVEMENT WAS TO BE BORN A FEW DAYS BEFORE I WAS. WHAT'S THERE FOR YOU TO BE ARROGANT ABOUT?*

*TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: IN JAPAN, LEADERSHIP IS DECIDED PURELY ON SENIORITY, RATHER THAN ABILITY

ALL RIGHT, I'LL ACCEPT YOUR CHALLENGE!
とーう
BU HA HA HA HA!
THAT'S FINE WITH ME!
FOR INSTANCE, KAZA-MATSURI...

IF THAT'S THE CASE, WE'LL WIN FOR SURE.
HE DELIBERATELY CHOSE THAT IDIOT FOR HIS TEAM!
I DON'T GET HIM AT ALL!

I THINK THIS IS A GOOD OPPOR-TUNITY.
THINGS HAVE CHANGED SINCE KAZAMA-TSURI CAME.
WHAT HAPPENED, YOU DIDN'T USE TO BE LIKE THIS?
MIZUNO-KUN... YOU...

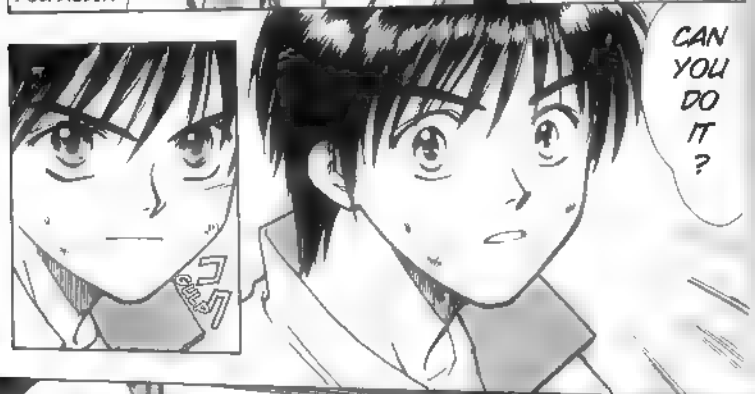
IF I WERE TO TAKE OVER, THE SAKURAJOSHI SOCCER CLUB WOULD DEFINITELY BECOME STRONGER UNDER MY LEADERSHIP.
WE'LL PLAY FOR THE POSITION OF CAPTAIN.
SO THE WINNER WILL BE THE CAPTAIN, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

IF I LOSE TO YOU, I WON'T EVER QUESTION YOUR AUTHORITY AGAIN, I'LL FOLLOW YOUR DIRECTIONS IN EVERYTHING
AND WHAT IF YOU LOSE?

I'LL JUST PICK ANYONE OTHER THAN THE REGULARS TO BE ON MINE.
YOU CAN HAVE THE REGULAR PLAYERS ON YOUR TEAM.
CAPTAIN! YOU DON'T HAVE A CHANCE AGAINST MIZUNO...
HEH

.....
I DON'T NEED TO INTRO-DUCE HIM, DO I ?
AND THIS GUY IS KAZAMA-TSURI ...

OTHER-WISE, THE ENTIRE CLUB WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO TRUST YOU AGAIN
YOU HAVE TO WIN THEIR TRUST.
.....


CAN YOU DO IT ?

WE'LL PLAY A 2-ON-2, 15-MINUTE MINI-GAME.

AND THAT'S HOW IT IS.

HANA-ZAWA, 1ST YEAR.

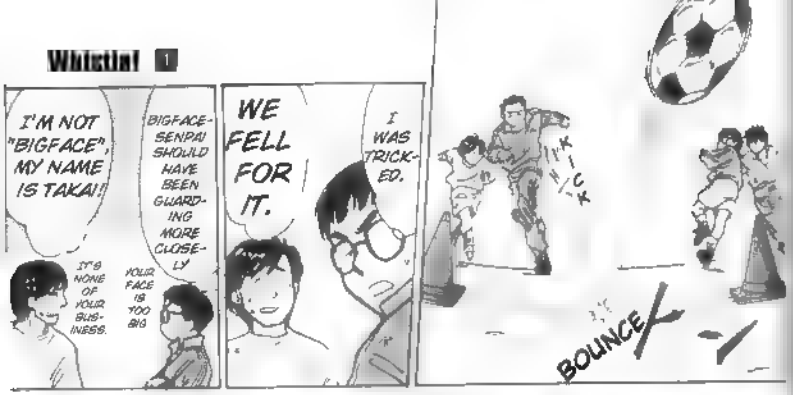
TAKAI, 2ND YEAR.

THESE ARE THE OTHER TEAM MEM-BERS.
AA ?

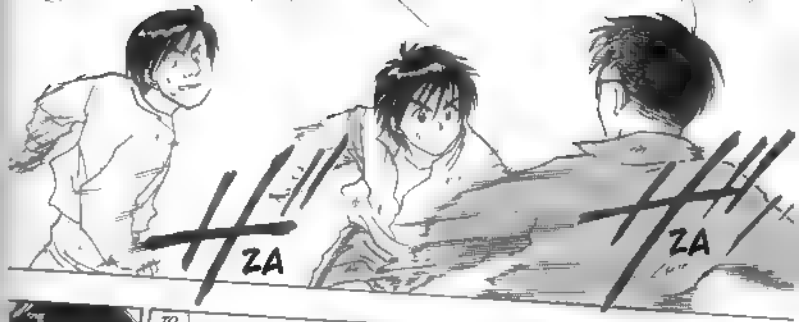
AND KOGA, 1ST YEAR.
OTHER THAN MYSELF ALL ARE SUB-STITUTE PLAYERS.

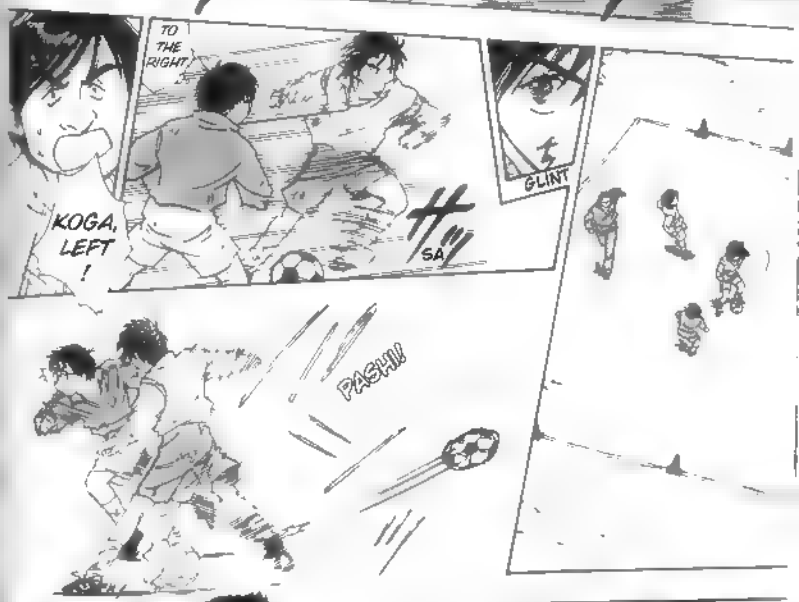
START!
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
ZA
ZA
TWIST
TAP
WHUMP
KAZA-MA-TSURI!!
KYAK!

CAN I REALLY ... DO IT ... ?
THUMP
IRRITATED
KAZAMATSURI AND HANA-ZAWA, VERSUS TAKAI AND KOGA.
I'VE BEEN TRAINING SO HARD, JUST BECAUSE I DON'T WANT OTHERS TO THINK LESS OF ME.
IS THIS REALLY OK ?
HE'S SHAK-ING.
I'M GONNA BE-LIEVE IN MY-SELF !
I DON'T WANT TO PLAY SOCCER ALONE ANY MORE!


I'M NOT "BIGFACE", MY NAME IS TAKA!!
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
BIGFACE-SENPAI SHOULD HAVE BEEN GUARDING MORE CLOSELY
YOUR FACE IS TOO BIG
WE FELL FOR IT.
I WAS TRICKED.
KICK
BOUNCE

TOMP
TOMP
TOMP
TOMP


ZA
ZA


KOGA, LEFT!
TO THE RIGHT
SA
GLINT

PASH!!

SUTA
LEFT?

TA
PLAYING SOCCER WITH OTHERS IS FUN !
REALLY REALLY FUN !

THUD!
THIS IS FUN !
GABA
PANT
PUFF
HUFF

SMILE
THANK YOU.
HOW SHOULD SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS PLAY AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE REGULAR TEAM?
NOW, I'LL TEACH YOU ALL HOW TO PLAY, AND WIN.
NOW THAT YOU KNOW EACH OTHERS'S STRENGTH, WE CAN DISCUSS THE REAL PROBLEM.

STOP!
PANT
PUFF
HUFF

IF WE WANT TO WIN AGAINST THE REGULARS, AS LESS SKILLFUL SUBSTITUTES ...
... THE FIRST THING IS TO NOT LET THE OPPONENTS MOVE FREELY WITH THE BALL.

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 1
CHAPTER 4

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STAGE.4 FOR TOMORROW

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THE POSITION OF FW (FORWARD)

IN THE PAST, THE MAIN JOB OF THE FW WAS TO SCORE GOALS. THERE WAS EVEN A PERIOD WHEN THAT WAS THE ONLY JOB OF THE FW. BUT NOW, BESIDES SCORING, THE FW ALSO HAS TO PASS THE BALL OUT, IN ORDER TO CREATE SCORING OPPORTUNITIES. THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK OF THE FW IS TO MARK THE BALL. NOT ONLY IS THIS TO PREPARE FOR AN ATTACK, BUT THE FW ALSO HAS TO BE AT THE FRONT LINE CHASING THE BALL, IN ORDER TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE OPPONENT. THE FW ALSO HAS TO BE READY TO SHOOT, AND FOR CHANGES OF FORMATION, CREATING SCORING OPPORTUNITIES, DEFENCE, AND OTHER CONDITIONS. IN THE PAST, SKILLED PLAYERS WERE ALWAYS PUT IN THE MF POSITION (MIDFIELDER), TO ACT AS THE BACKBONE OF THE TEAM. BUT THE LATEST TREND IS TO MAKE SUCH PLAYERS THE FW INSTEAD. PERHAPS THE REASON WHY THESE PLAYERS ARE STILL USED IN MF POSITION IN JAPAN, IS BECAUSE THERE HAS YET TO BE ANY VERY STRONG ATTACKERS APPEARING HERE. THOSE WHO HAVE WATCHED THE WORLD CUP IN FRANCE, SHOULD KNOW THE TRUE CAPABILITIES OF WORLD-CLASS FW PLAYERS. DON'T JUST WATCH THE SCORING BY THE FW, BUT YOU SHOULD ALSO PAY ATTENTION TO THE PERFORMANCE OF OTHER PLAYERS.

—— WINNING RUN!

THEN, ONCE WE'VE STOLEN THE BALL, HOW SHOULD WE ATTACK?

KAZAMATSURI
TAKAI
HANAZAWA
KOGA
MIZUNO

WAA? ME?

THEN KAZAMA-TSURI WILL ADVANCE TO THE FRONT.

UN UN MEANS YES YES

THE PLAYER WITH THE BALL SHOULD EVADE THE OPPONENT'S GUARD, THEN PASS THE BALL TO ME.

PASS THE BALL TO MIZUNO, WHO HAS MOST SKILL, AS THE FOUNDATION OF THE ATTACK.

BU BU

BU BU MEANS HM, HMM

WHEN I'VE EVADED MY OPPONENTS AND PASSED THE BALL TO KAZAMATSURI WHO IS FREE,

TON

KAZAMATSURI

MIZUNO

WE CAN .. SCORE!

AT THIS TIME, I THINK THAT THE ONE LEFT UNGUARDED WILL MOST LIKELY BE KAZAMATSURI, BECAUSE EVERYONE THINKS HE'S HOPELESS

KAZAMA-TSURI
OPPONENT
OPPONENT
MIZUNO
OPPONENT
OPPONENT

WHEN I HAVE THE BALL, TWO OR THREE OF THEM WILL SURROUND ME.

THAT'S THE FACT I'M COUNTING ON.

THE CAPTAIN AND THE OTHERS ALL THINK THAT KAZAMATSURI CAN'T PLAY SOCCER.

AT ANY RATE ...

IN 1-ON-1, WE MUSTN'T LOSE TO THEM.

KAZAMATSURI ... WHAT SHOULD OUR GENERAL PLAN BE?

ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN WE HAVE THE BALL, SOME OF US MUST BREAK THROUGH THE OPPONENT'S GUARD, THEN WE'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO SCORE.

WHEN THE BALL IS IN THEIR CONTROL, WE CAN'T LET THEM EVADE OUR COVER. AS LONG AS WE KEEP THEM FROM MOVING FORWARD, IT'LL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO GET THE BALL NEAR THE GOAL.

AND ONCE THEY MAKE A MISTAKE, WE'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO STEAL THE BALL.

KA

THE BEST OFFENCE IS A GOOD DEFENCE,

AS LONG AS WE THOROUGHLY COVER EACH OPPONENT, THEY'LL DEFINITELY FEEL STRESSED AND MAKE MISTAKES.

THAT'S WHAT I TH NK, TOO.

SO THERE'S NO REASON WHY WE SHOULD LOSE TO THEM.

THE CURRENT STATE OF OUR SOCCER CLUB IS LIKE THOSE REGULARS, THEY ADMIT DEFEAT EVEN BEFORE THE BATTLE BEGINS.

AH... YES!

KAZAMA-TSURI!

I CAN'T COMPARE TO HIM EVEN THOUGH WE'RE THE SAME AGE.

HE'S A FANTASTIC PLAYER, AND CAN EVEN PLAN TACTICS.

MIZUNO-KUN IS SO COOL.

I SHOULD HAVE MY GOOD SIDES AS WELL,

IT'LL BE OK AS LONG AS I PLAY SOCCER MY OWN WAY!

SHEESH, NO MATTER WHAT, I COULD NEVER BE LIKE MIZUNO!

WHAT WAS I THINK-ING?!

LET'S START TRAI-NING.

WERE YOU NOT LISTE-NING?

HE'S SO STOW!

THAT'S WHY, DURING THIS WEEK, WE NEED TO TRAIN SO IT'LL BE HARDER FOR THEM TO EVADE US!

THAT'S TRUE, BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT OUR OPPO-NENTS ARE THE REGULAR PLAYERS,

THEY'LL BE ABLE TO SHAKE OFF OUR COVER IMMEDIATELY.

PU PU

KUZU KUZU

KUZU IS A WHISPER SOUND AND PU PU IS A WEIRD LAUGH
* WHAT WOULD BOYS BE DOING IN A CIRCLE LIKE THAT?

WE'LL WIN FOR SURE!

AND TRUST OUR TEAM-MATES,

DON'T WORRY!

AS LONG AS WE ALL TRY OUR BEST,

THAT WOULD BE TRUE EVEN IF WE WERE PLAYING AGAINST OUR DISTRICT'S STRONGEST TEAM, MUSASHI-NOMORI.

USING DIFFERENT TACTICS MIGHT BRING THE POSSIBILITY OF WINNING.

EXACTLY! THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS CERTAINTY IN SOCCER.

HYO!

DA

SOROR-

SOROR-

WHEN YOU'RE CONFIDENT, START TRYING IT WITH THE BALL.

HYO! IS A FAST MOVEMENT EFFECT

SOROR! MEANS STEALTHILY

HOWEVER, IF YOU STAY TOO FAR AWAY, IT GIVES HIM A CHANCE TO ATTACK.

YOU NEED TO MAINTAIN A DISTANCE FROM YOUR OPPONENT.

TOO FAR
MORE THAN 1 METRE

TAKAI, YOU KEPT TOO CLOSE, SO KOGA EVADED EASILY.

THEN, IT'LL BE SIMPLE TO STEAL THE BALL.

WHEN THE OPPONENT FEELS PRESSURED, HE'LL EASILY MAKE MISTAKES WHEN PASSING.

TO

BO

THEN YOU CAN COVER HIM IN THE BEST WAY.

THE BEST DISTANCE FROM WHICH TO GUARD YOUR OPPONENT IS 50 CENTIMETRES.

AND THE DEFENDER NEEDS TO TRY HIS BEST TO COVER THE OPPONENT!

WITHIN THESE BOUNDARIES, THE ATTACKER NEEDS TO TRY HIS BEST TO EVADE THE COVER.

FIRST, WE'LL PRACTICE 1-ON-1 DEFENCE, IN A SITUATION WITHOUT A BALL.

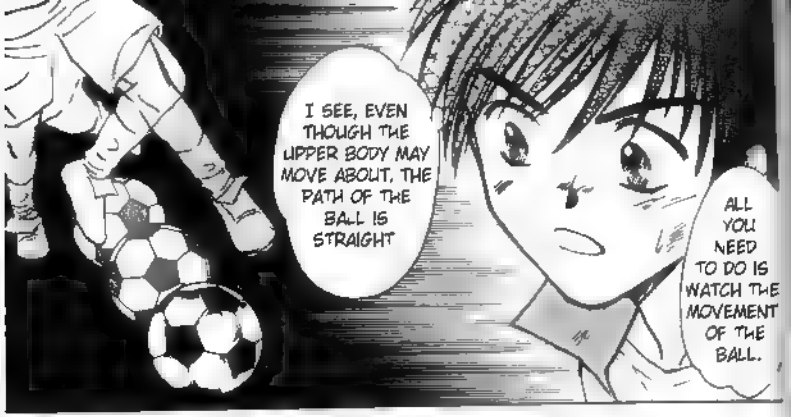
START!

WHEN THE ATTACKER BREAKS FREE FOR MORE THAN ONE METRE, SWITCH OVER.

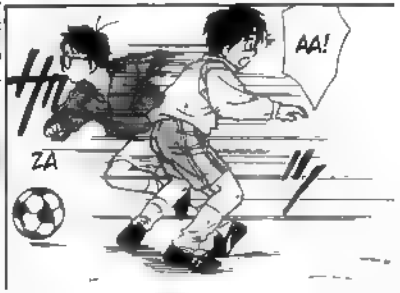
IMAGINE THAT YOU HAVE THE BALL, FEINT TO EVADE THE OPPONENT!

ZU

ZU


I SEE, EVEN THOUGH THE UPPER BODY MAY MOVE ABOUT, THE PATH OF THE BALL IS STRAIGHT
ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS WATCH THE MOVEMENT OF THE BALL.

TARA TARA MEANS TAKAI IS SWEATING



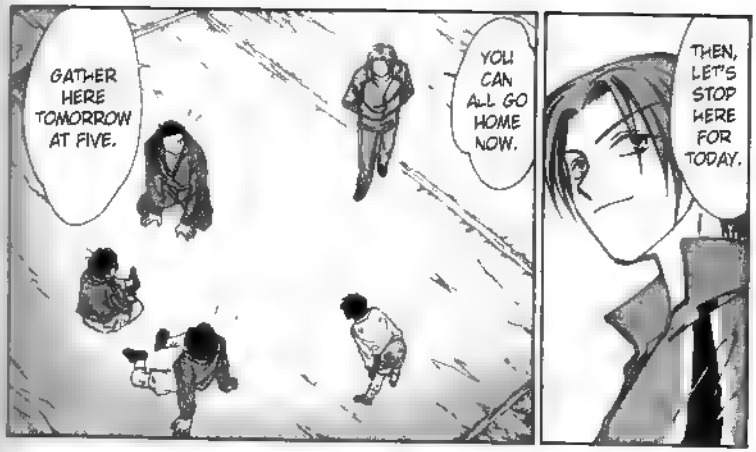
HEY

WE'LL WAIT HERE, HURRY UP AND GET IT.
AH, I LEFT SOMETHING BEHIND.
SHEESH

THAT WAS FAST! WHAT'S UP?

KAZA-MATSURI IS STILL TRAINING!

ZA

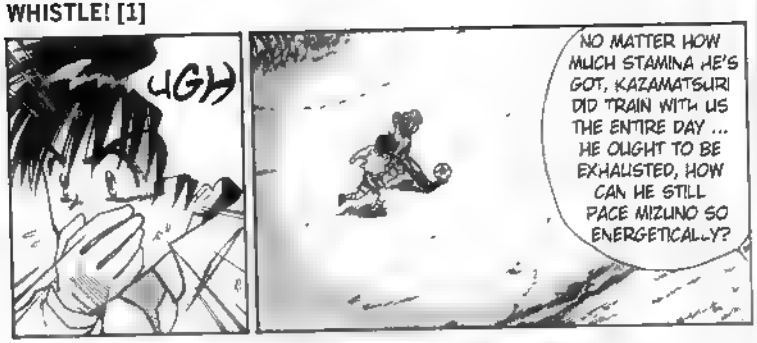

GATHER HERE TOMORROW AT FIVE.
YOU CAN ALL GO HOME NOW.
THEN, LET'S STOP HERE FOR TODAY.

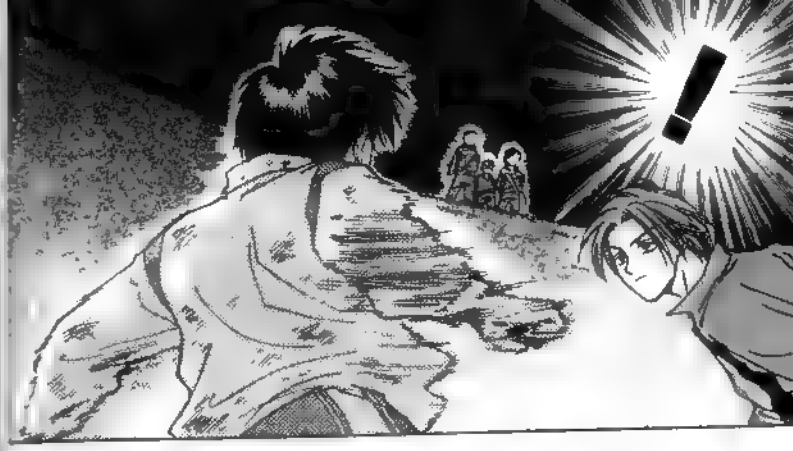
MIZUNO-KUN!
EXCUSE ME
FINALLY
WE'RE OFF.

HOW ABOUT MCDON-ALD'S?
AND I'M STARVING!
DEP N TEY!

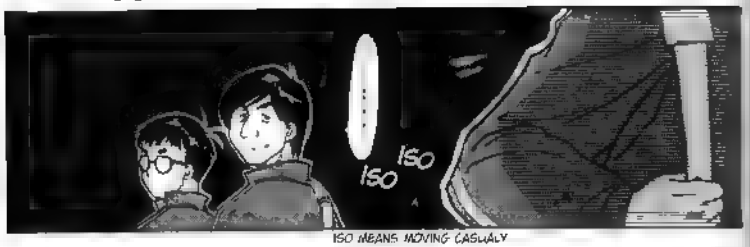
I AM TIRED DROP DEAD

NO PROB-LEM.
AFTER THIS. .


UGH
NO MATTER HOW MUCH STAMINA HE'S GOT, KAZAMATSURI DID TRAIN WITH US THE ENTIRE DAY ... HE OUGHT TO BE EXHAUSTED, HOW CAN HE STILL PACE MIZUNO SO ENERGETICALLY?



HERO MEANS - MR. WOBBLY TIMES



ISO MEANS MOVING CASUALY

HE'S SO EASILY INFLUENCED.
SHEESH!
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT HE'S GOING HOME TO PRACTICE IN SECRET, AFTER SEEING KAZAMATSURI STILL GOING AT IT.
WHAT A FAKER

CHUN CHUN IS THE SPARKLE OF THE EARLY MORNING SUN

BUT IN TERMS OF SPIRIT, THAT GUY KAZAMATSURI DOESN'T LOSE TO MIZUNO.
IT'S TRUE THAT MIZUNO IS OUTSTANDING
YOU MEAN MIZUNO? WHY WOULD AN OUTSTANDING PERSON LIKE HIM STUDY AT A MEDIOCRE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIKE SAKURAJOSUI?
THERE IS A GREAT GUY ON THE TEAM, AS A MAN, I DON'T WANT TO LOSE TO HIM.
THIS TIME, I'LL LEAVE BEHIND THE ROLE OF BENCH-WARMER FOREVER.

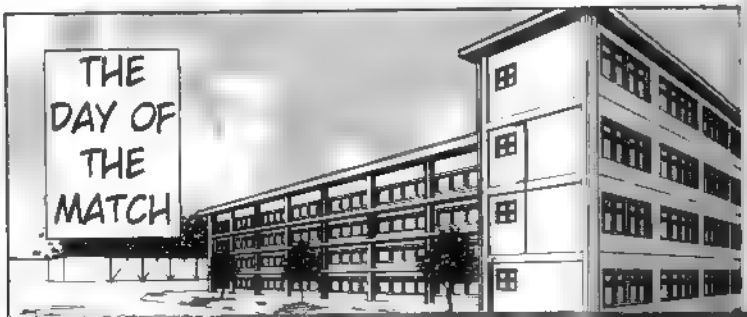
THE DAY BEFORE THE MATCH
ZA
SA

WERE WE ALL THINKING THE SAME WAY?
I DON'T WANT TO LOSE OUT TO THAT GUY, NOR TO YOU GUYS.
DON'T THINK I'M HERE FOR THE SAME REASON YOU ARE!
I FEEL THAT I HAVEN'T TRAINED ENOUGH...

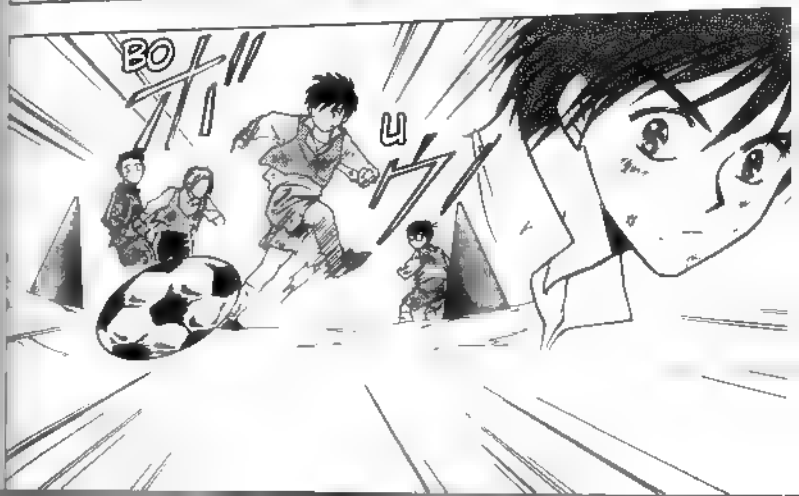
STILL STUDYING SO CONSCIENTIOUSLY AFTER TUITION. IN THE FUTURE YOU'LL GET INTO TOKYO UNIVERSITY FOR SURE!
THAT'S MY RYOUHIKO
BEING CONSCIENTIOUS IS MY DUTY
KARI KARI
THEY STINK OF SWEAT
SHUUKYO! YOUR CLOTHES HAVE BEEN SO DIRTY LATELY!
SORRY MOM!
YOU CAN'T PLAY SOCCER WITHOUT GETTING YOUR CLOTHES DIRTY.

NOW FOR TOMORROW
IT WAS MESSY
THAT WASN'T BAD!
THAT'S MORE LIKE IT.

LET'S SOLVE THAT PROBLEM ONCE AND FOR ALL!
THE CAPTAIN AND HIS PALS HAVE MADE IT SO THE SAKURAJOSU SOCCER CLUB HASN'T A SNOWBALL'S CHANCE IN HELL.


THE DAY OF THE MATCH

PASH
BA
BI
SU
TA


BO
U

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SPECIAL THANKS TO:
Ryujin

THE ROLE OF THE MF (MIDFIELDER)

THERE'S A SAYING THAT GOES, "THE TEAM THAT CAN CONTROL THE MIDDLE SPACE WILL CONTROL THE GAME", THUS THE POSITION OF MF IN THE SOCCER TEAM IS VERY IMPORTANT. THE MF'S BASIC DUTY IS TO RECEIVE BALLS REGAINED BY THE DF (DEFENCE), AND FINALLY TO PASS THEM TO THE FW (FORWARD).
HOWEVER, TODAY'S MF IS SIMILAR TO THE FW IN NEEDING TO MEET DIFFERENT CRITERIA. SKILL IN PASSING, ACCURATE SHOOTING, DEFENCE, SHEER ATHLETIC ABILITY AND SO ON ARE ALL NECESSARY QUALIFICATIONS. FOR INSTANCE, A DEFENCE-TYPE MF, MUST OBVIOUSLY BE ABLE TO WORK WITH THE DF, AND HAS TO MAINTAIN A BALANCE BETWEEN OFFENCE AND DEFENCE. AT THE SAME TIME, THE MF MUST HAVE EXCELLENT JUDGEMENT IN ASSESSING THE FLOW OF THE GAME, SO THIS POSITION ISN'T JUST ABOUT PHYSICALLY PLAYING SOCCER, BUT ABOUT USING THE MIND AS WELL.
FOR AN ATTACK-TYPE MF, THIS POSITION IS THE CRUX OF A SUCCESSFUL ATTACK. THE MF HAS TO COMPLETELY COVER THE OPPONENTS' DF, HE ALSO NEEDS TO CREATE VITAL SCORING OPPORTUNITIES, AND MAY EVEN HAVE TO STRIKE HIMSELF.
THE PERFORMANCE OF THE MF GREATLY AFFECTS WHETHER THE TEAM WILL WIN OR LOSE. MIZUNO CAN BE DESCRIBED AS AN ALL-ROUND MF.

STAGE.5 THE POWER OF DREAMS

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 1
CHAPTER 5

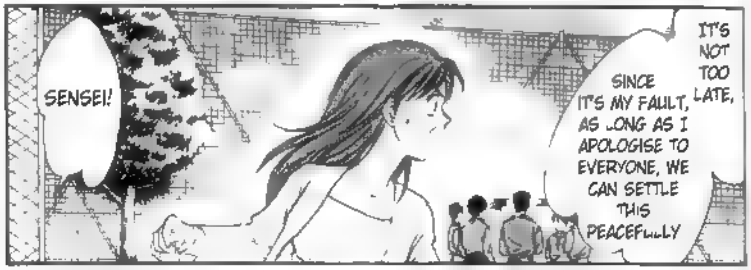
Presented by:
HoshiManga

THE CAPTAIN AND HIS PALS MUST BE CONFIDENT. IT LOOKS LIKE THEY HAVEN'T BOTHERED TO TRAIN AT ALL.
THAT'S OBVIOUS SINCE, OTHER THAN MIZUNO, THEY'RE A BUNCH OF LOSERS!
THEY SEEM TO HAVE GONE THROUGH SOME TOUGH TRAINING

THE DAY OF THE MATCH

MAYBE THEY'RE TOO SCARED TO SHOW UP?
IRA
IRA
IRA
HOW LONG ARE THEY GOING TO MAKE US WAIT?!
BUT ACTUALLY THAT WASN'T TRUE. WHAT MIZUNO-KUN SAID REVEALED THE TRUTH TO ME
I THOUGHT AT FIRST THAT EVERYONE IN THE SOCCER CLUB WAS GETTING ALONG WELL.
AND I'M THE TEACHER-IN-CHARGE!
AH, THEY'RE FINALLY HERE!
BECAUSE OF ME, THE ENTIRE CLUB IS BREAKING APART! WHAT SHOULD I DO ---
THIS MATCH, TO DECIDE THE POSITION OF CAPTAIN, WAS ALL CAUSED BY MY MISUNDERSTANDING.

IF YOU LOSE THIS MATCH, YOU'LL REALLY HAVE NOWHERE ELSE TO GO!
THAT'S RIGHT!
THIS AL- HAPPENED BECAUSE I MADE A MISTAKE. I ANNOUNCED THAT YOU WERE A STARTER, THUS...
I SHOULD HAVE APOLO- GISED TO YOU MUCH EARLIER!
I'M SO SORRY, KAZAMA- TSURI- KUN!
GIKU!


SENSEI!
SINCE IT'S MY FAULT, AS LONG AS I APOLOGISE TO EVERYONE, WE CAN SETTLE THIS PEACEFULLY
IT'S NOT TOO LATE,

BECAUSE WE'VE GIVEN IT OUR BEST!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO LOSE!

WELL, IT BEATS LOOKING DOWN ON YOUR OPPONENTS TO THE POINT THAT YOU DON'T TRAIN AT ALL, DON'T YOU THINK?
WERE YOU GUYS DE- AYED BY SOME USELESS LAST- MINUTE EFFORT?

MY MY, IT'S KAZAMATSU- RI-KUN FROM MUSASHI- NOMOR..
LET'S START QUICK- -Y!
BINGO.
MUKA

I'LL TRY TO DO MY BEST!
PLEASE DO FEE- FREE TO SHOW US A LITTLE OF MUSASHI- NOMORI'S STRENGTH THIS TIME!

KATORI- SENSEI!

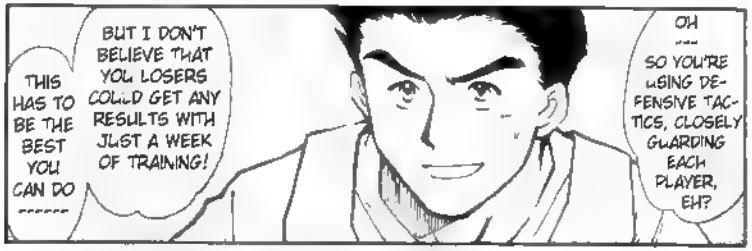
KAZA- MATSU- RI-KUN!

WHAT THE -- DIDN'T HE REALISE I WAS MAKING FUN OF HIM?

I KNOW I I WILL DO IT!
WAA
WAA
WE PLAYED A 5-ON-5 MINI-GAME ON THE FIRST DAY I TRANSFERRED HERE
BUT THIS TIME IT'S DIFFERENT
DOK
DOK
DOK
SHUT UP -- IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS --
TAKA! -- YOUR FACE IS SOOO BIG --
I FEEL REALLY ANXIOUS. IT'S LIKE A REAL GAME!
WAI
WHY IN THE WORLD ARE THERE SO MANY SPECTATORS FOR SUCH A SMALL MATCH?
PII
THE WHISTLE BLOWS FOR KICK OFF!!

WHAT'S UP?
THE SOCCER CLUB'S DOING SOMETHING INTERESTING'
GOOD LUCK
MIZUNO!
WAA!
OH --
THEY'RE USING THIS MATCH TO DETERMINE WHO IS TO BE CAPTAIN OF THE TEAM.
WE'RE GONNA TEACH THOSE SUBSTITUTES A LESSON --
THE LINE-UP IS THE CAPTAIN AND HIS TEAM OF REGULARS (THE SENIORS) --
MIZUNO!
WAA --
VERSUS THE TEAM OF SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS (THE JUNIORS) LED BY MIZUNO
TRY YOUR BEST -- SUBSTITUTES --

!!


THIS HAS TO BE THE BEST YOU CAN DO ------
BUT I DON'T BELIEVE THAT YOU LOSERS COULD GET ANY RESULTS WITH JUST A WEEK OF TRAINING!
OH --- SO YOU'RE USING DEFENSIVE TACTICS, CLOSELY GUARDING EACH PLAYER, EH?

WE WON'T KNOW WHO WILL WIN OR LOSE WITHOUT GIVING IT A SHOT.
IF YOU WANT TO APOLOGISE, NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!

ZA
ZA
ZA
ZAFU

SHIMATTA...
THERE'S NO DEFENCE!
ANOTHER JAPANESE SWEARWORD WITH CONNOTATIONS OF "OH NO!"
ZA
TAKAI, QUICKLY GO COVER!
CHE!
KAZA-MA-TSURI!
CHE!
SORRY!
DA

SEMPAI! GETTING PAST ME WON'T BE AS EASY AS YOU THINK!
ZA
DA
DA
HYU
AW, YOU ARE SO PA-THE-TIC
AMONGST THE SOPHOMORES, YOU'RE THE ONLY SUBSTITUTE PLAYER AND YOU EVEN HAVE TO OBEY THE ORDERS OF MIZUNO, WHO'S THE SAME AGE.
KA
YOU'RE NOT BAD! EH TAKAI?
CHE! HE'S TOUGH!
IN JAPANESE SOCIETY RESPECT IS USUALLY ACCORDED TO THOSE OLDER THEN YOU. TAKAI WOULD HAVE TO OBEY THE 3RD YEARS, OBEYING A 2ND YEAR LIKE MIZUNO WOULD BE A LITTLE EMBARRASSING
KUSO IS A SWEARWORD
YOU IDIOT, YOU'RE TOO EASY TO PRO-VOKE!
SA
TO
KUSO!
DA

THE SUBSTITUTES WON'T MAKE IT AFTER ALL.
THOSE GUYS CAN'T GAIN ANY CONTROL OF THE BALL.
IT SEEMS ...
*THE TEAMS DEFENCIVE HALF IS REFERRED TO AS "THEIR" HALF
THE BALL HAS NEVER LEFT THE SENIORS' HALF*,
HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED?
HOWEVER.
IF THE JUNIORS WON, IT'D AFFECT THE WHOLE CLUB I'D BE A DISASTER.
JUNIORS CAN'T BEAT SENIORS, OF COURSE.
IRA IRA
IT MEANS THAT THE SENIORS AREN'T DOING TOO WELL...
THAT MEANS...
EH? HEY, IT'S TRUE!
SHEESH! WHAT IS HIS PROBLEM?!
JUST 'CAUSE I'M NOT AS SKILLED AT SOCCER, HE TREATS ME LIKE AN IDIOT!
TAKAI! YOUR STAMINA IS STILL TOO LOW!
I'M NOT PATHETIC AT ALL.
THAT MEANS HE ACKNOWLEDGES YOUR STRENGTH.
MIZUNO CHOSE YOU, FROM AMONGST ALL THE SUBSTITUTE PLAYERS,
THAT IS NOT IT
WE WON'T LOSE TO THE REGULARS!
IF I SLACK OFF, I CAN'T BE CALLED A MAN!
EVEN KAZAMATSURI, WHO WAS PUBLICLY HUMILIATED, CAN TRY SO HARD,
IF EACH OF US TRIES OUR BEST, WE'LL SURELY PREVAIL!
OUR INDIVIDUAL STRENGTH DEFINITELY LOSES TO THE SENIORS, BUT...

SU
SA
SA
ZA
ZA
OH NO ...
DO
BA
GET LOST!
!
TA
KUSO, IT'S MIZUNO!
NOW!
DON
ZA

KAZA-
MATSU-
RI'S
FREE!
WAA!
NO...
THE PASS
WAS TOO
POWER-
FUL!
WILL HE
GET TO IT
IN TIME?
SUTSU
BA
!
SHU

WHAT ARE YOU DOING SO DAZED?
AREN'T YOU HAPPY OVER YOUR FIRST GOAL?
WAY TO GO!
THAT GOAL WAS REALLY COOL!
GOOD JOB, SUBSTITUTES!
KA-ZA-MA-TSU-RI!
BAN
I DID IT!
WHAT'S WITH YOU?
BUGI.
BUGI
BUGI MEANS PUNCH

ZA N
TEN!
TEN!
WA

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SPECIAL THANKS TO:
Ryujin

THE ROLE OF THE DF (DEFENDER)

DF REFERS TO THE PLAYERS WHO SOLELY DEFEND. POSITIONED RIGHT AT THE BACK, THEIR JOB IS TO BLOCK THE ATTACKS OF THE OPPONENTS.
WHEN PLAYING AGAINST NON-JAPANESE, THE DF MUST BE A PLAYER WHO CAN TAKE SOME HARD KNOCKS. FURTHERMORE, TODAY'S SOCCER PLAYERS NEED TO BE FAST, HAVE GOOD HIGH-SPEED BALL CONTROL ETC., EVEN IF THEY ARE DEFENDERS. HAVING ONLY DEFENSIVE SKILLS IS NOT ENOUGH. THIS IS SO THAT WHEN THEY STEAL THE BALL, THEY CAN KICK OFF THE ATTACK. THUS, THE DF ALSO NEEDS TO HAVE PASSING SKILLS, INCLUDING BEING ABLE TO MAKE ACCURATE LONG-DISTANCE PASSES.
ALSO, WHEN THE PLAYERS ON BOTH SIDES (OF THE FIELD) START AN ATTACK AND ADVANCE TO THE FRONT, IT'S ALSO NECESSARY TO HAVE ACCURATE ASSESSMENT, AND OF COURSE SKILL AT GOAL SHOOTING.
AND WHEN THE OPPOSING TEAM TAKES A CORNER KICK, THE DF MUST STAND AT THE GOAL, RELYING ON HEIGHT TO HEAD OFF THE BALL. THIS IS ANOTHER OF THE DF'S RESPONSIBILITIES.

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 1
CHAPTER 6

STAGE:6 DECISIVE BATTLE

Presented by:

HoshiManga

IN A WHILE WE'LL BE TEACHING THAT UPSTART A LESSON!
I DIDN'T LIKE HIM FROM THE START.
SECOND HALF, START!
HE COVERED ME SO QUICKLY!
SU
PASS IT TO MIZUNO!
BO
PASHI

WILL THAT WORK?

SEE, WE CAN DO IT IF WE TRY!
THAT HURT
LET'S KEEP ATTACKING IN THE SECOND HALF.

DESTROY MIZUNO!

EH? BUT THEN THEY'LL SCORE!
AFTER THIS, DELIBERATELY PASS THE BALL TO MIZUNO

I GET IT!
THAT'S WHY WE'LL ...

THEIR TACTIC IS TO COVER US CLOSELY, THEN, WHEN THEY MANAGE TO STEAL THE BALL THEY PASS IT MIZUNO.
AS THE REGULAR PLAYERS, IF WE LOSE TO THE SUBSTITUTES, WE'LL BE HUMILIATED!
AS LONG AS WE CAN CRIPPLE MIZUNO'S ATTACK, WE'LL WIN FOR SURE.

ZA

!

ZA

PASS TO KAZAMA-TSURI. ..

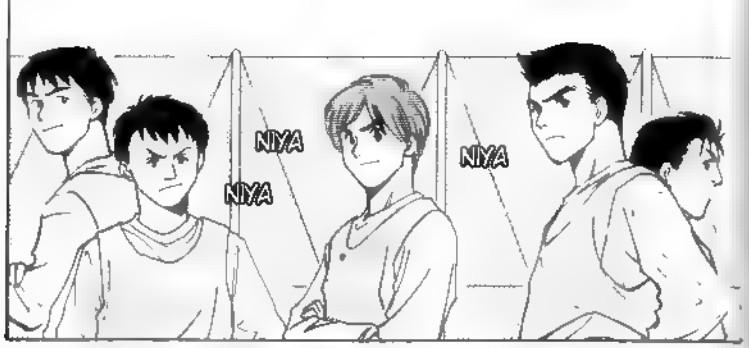
FU

ZA

MIZUNO KUN!

DOZAA

!



KUSO IS A CURSE-WORD.

GOMEN GOMEN IS A CASUAL WAY OF SAYING SORRY
THE NIYA NIYA INDICATES THAT THE CAPTAIN IS SMIRKING.

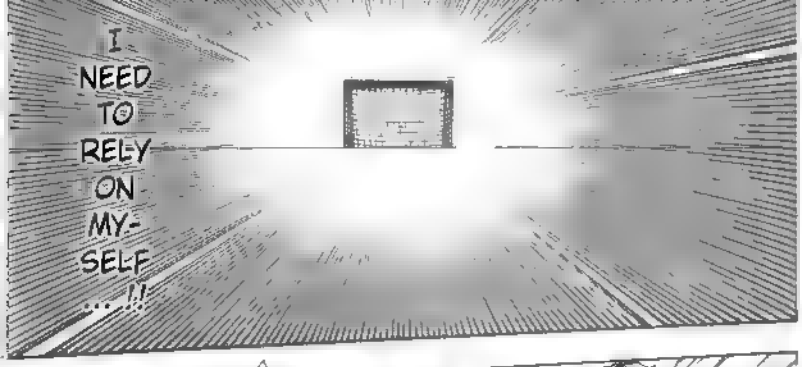
ZA

SINCE WE KNOW THEY'LL ALWAYS PASS THE BALL TO HIM, WE CAN EASILY STOP THEIR OFFENSIVE.
THOSE LOSERS ONLY KNOW HOW TO RELY ON MIZUNO.

STILL
I DON'T LIKE THE WAY THEY'RE ACTING
THEY DON'T GO FOR THE LEG THAT ISN'T CONTROLLING THE BALL.
SOMEHOW...
BUT ... THAT'S A STRATEGY, TOO
I FEEL THAT THEIR METHODS ARE KINDA LOW

GA
GA

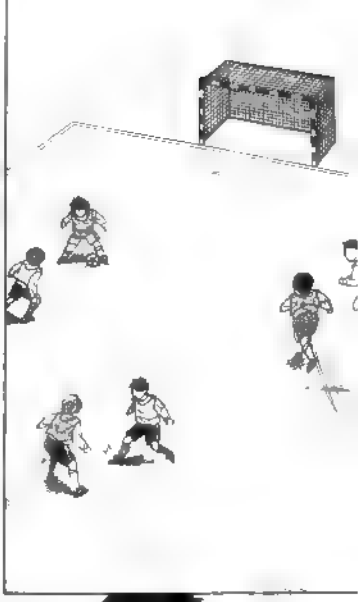
MEANIES
WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING TO MIZUNO-KUN?!
WHAT'S GOING ON? THAT'S TOO MUCH!
I NEED TO THINK OF SOMETHING ...
..... IT CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS .....


I NEED TO RELY ON MY-SELF ...!!

NOW YOU?
ZA

PA
AN

JIRI
JIRI



WHAT'S THE MATTER? AREN'T YOU GOING TO PASS TO MIZUNO?

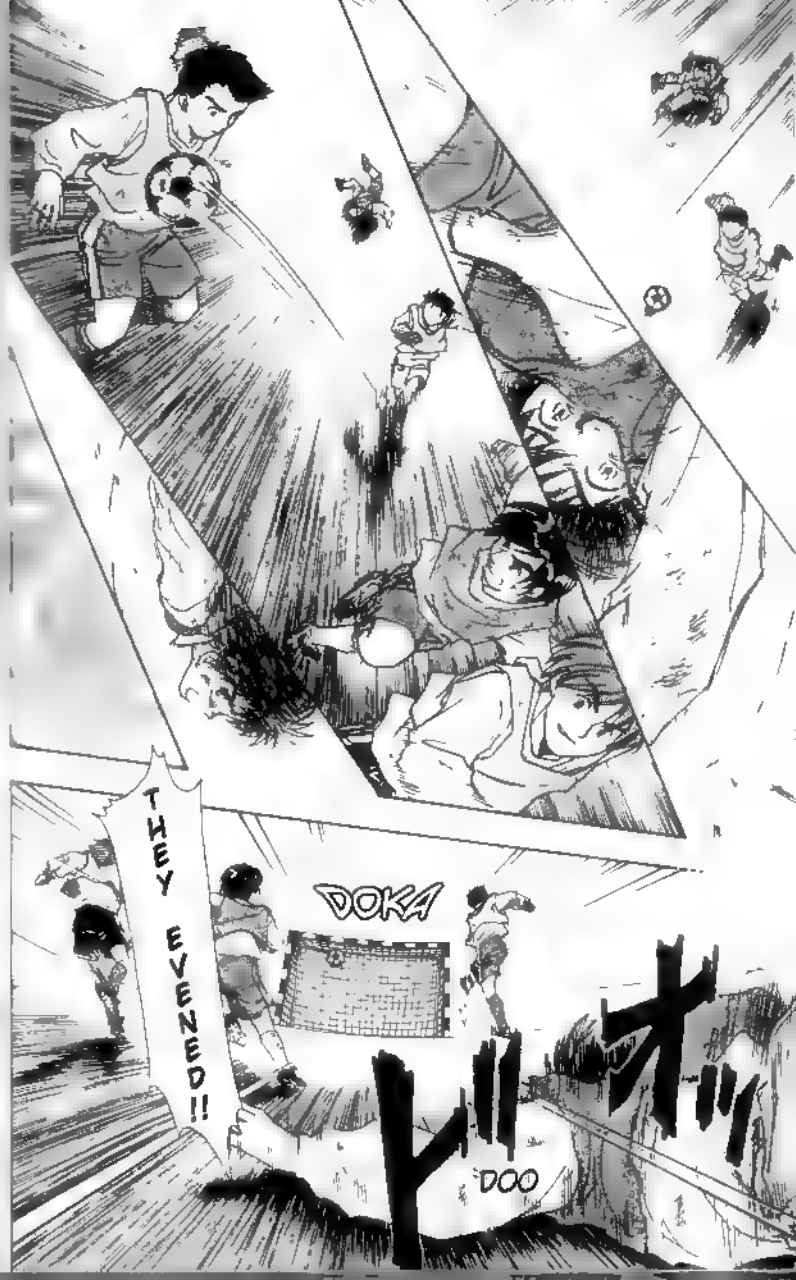
CHIRA

IF I CONTINUE TO PASS THE BALL TO HIM...
MIZUNO'S ALREADY EXHAUSTED FROM HIS MANY INJURIES...

WE CAN'T KEEP RELYING ON MIZUNO!
ZA

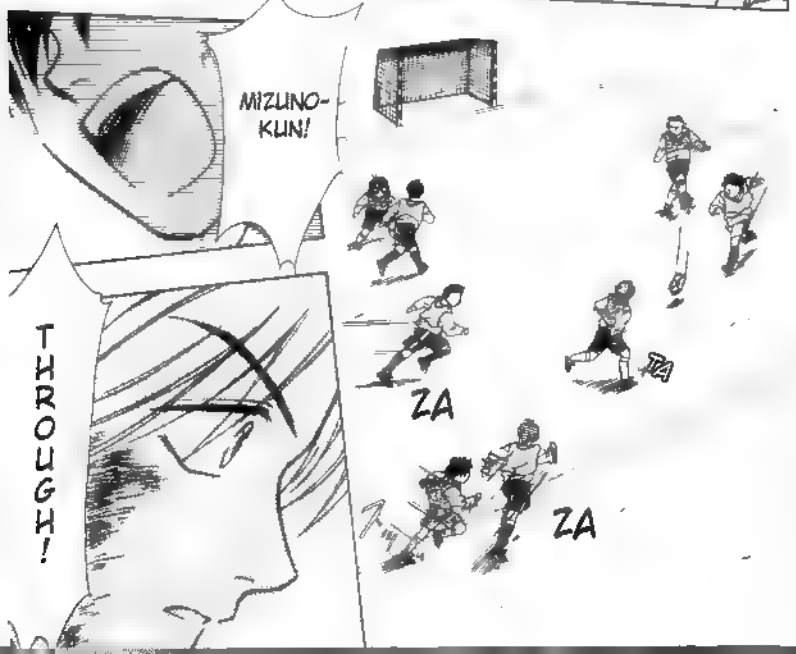
SU

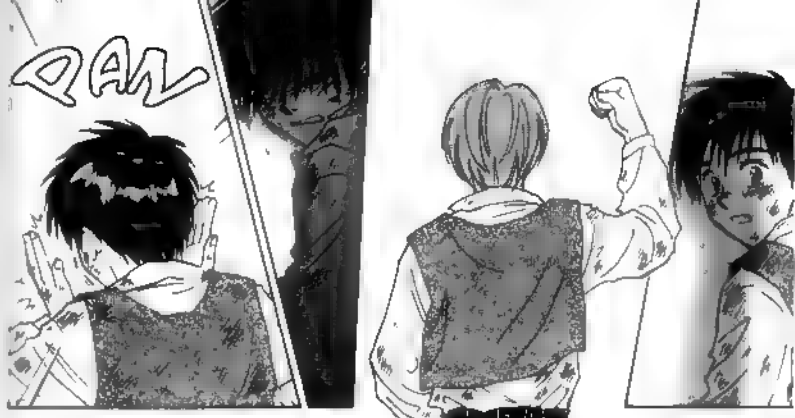
... WHICH MEANS THAT EVEN IF WE TIE, I WILL STILL WIN.
MIZU-NO.
WA
YOU DID SAY "IF THE SUBSTI-TUTES WIN", DIDN'T YOU?
WAI
WAI
WE HAVEN'T LOST YET!
THAT WAS A PRETTY BAD FALL . .
THERE-FORE, USE ALL YOUR STRENGTH TO PLAY!
DON'T LOOK DOWN ON ME, MY LEGS AREN'T THAT WEEK.


THEY EVENED !!
DOKA
DOO
オ!!!

BO
IT'S UP TO YOU!
PASS TO ME!
MIZUNO..
AND WHAT'S MORE, HE BELIEVES IN ME!

...I'LL WIN IT BACK!
AREN'T YOU GUYS TIRED OF THAT YET?!


MIZUNO-KUN!
ZA
ZA
ZA
THROUGH!


DAN

HANA-ZAWA!
HE STILL HASN'T GIVEN UP!

WE ARE TIED, 'CAUSE OF MY BAD JUDGEMENT ... AND EVEN THOUGH MIZUNO-KUN'S LEG HURTS SO MUCH THAT HE CAN BARELY STAND ...
I'LL WIN THAT GOAL BACK!
WAA
WAA

!!
SU
PAN
AH
...
!?

ZA
!!!
GOAL!!
AT THIS CRITICAL MOMENT THE SUB-STITUTES SCORE ANOTHER GOAL!

KAZA-MATSU-RI!!
GO FOR IT

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SPECIAL THANKS TO:
Ryujin

THROUGH PASS

WHEN A THROUGH PASS SUCCEEDS, IT'S A FANTASTIC FEELING. BUT TO THE OTHER SIDE, IT'S A VERY BIG BLOW.
ACCURATELY JUDGING THE SPACE BETWEEN OPPONENTS, AND PASSING THE BALL OUT THROUGH THAT SPACE, IS CALLED 'THROUGH'. IF SUCH A PASS SUCCEEDS, IT'S LIKELY THAT THE RECEIVING PLAYER WILL HAVE A 1-ON-1 FACE-OFF WITH THE GOALKEEPER. THE COMMONLY-HEARD PHRASE "SURE-KILL PASS" REFERS TO SUCH A MOVE THAT GETS TO THE CRUX WITH ONE SHOT.
ANOTHER KIND OF THROUGH PASS IS WHEN A PLAYER FEINTS TO RECEIVE A PASS, BUT DOESN'T ACTUALLY TOUCH THE BALL AND LETS IT GO THROUGH TO A TEAMMATE ON THE OTHER SIDE. THOUGH THIS REQUIRES BEING SURE OF YOUR TEAMMATE'S POSITION, IF IT SUCCEEDS, YOU'LL HAVE CREATED A SCORING OPPORTUNITY AND TRICKED YOUR OPPONENT.
AMONG THE VARIOUS METHODS OF PASSING, THE THROUGH PASS IS PROBABLY THE ONE THAT SHOWS OFF THE MOST SKILL. IT WAS ZIEGER'S BEST TECHNIQUE, AND JAPANESE PLAYERS NANAMI AND NAKATA ARE GOOD AT THIS KIND OF PASS, TOO.
BUT NOWADAYS, IT SEEMS THAT THIS TYPE OF PASS IS NOT AS EASILY EXECUTED...

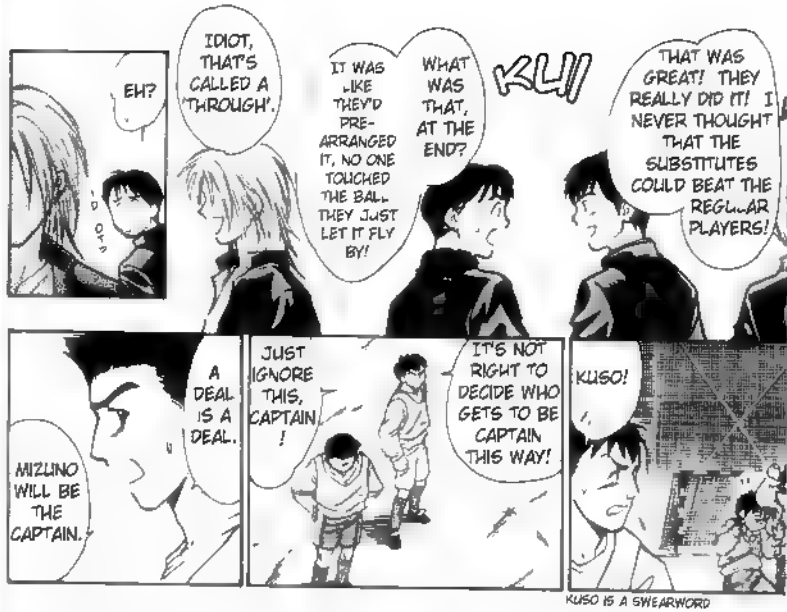
STAGE.7 THE BREAKING UP OF THE SOCCER CLUB

WHISTLE!

VOLUME 1
CHAPTER 7

Presented by:
HoshiManga

ZA
PI-PI-I
WA
SHI N
(SILENCE)
WON?
HAVE WE.
WE DID IT !!


EH?
IDIOT, THAT'S CALLED A 'THROUGH'.
IT WAS LIKE THEY'D PRE-ARRANGED IT, NO ONE TOUCHED THE BALL. THEY JUST LET IT FLY BY!
WHAT WAS THAT, AT THE END?
KU!
THAT WAS GREAT! THEY REALLY DID IT! I NEVER THOUGHT THAT THE SUBSTITUTES COULD BEAT THE REGULAR PLAYERS!
A DEAL IS A DEAL.
MIZUNO WILL BE THE CAPTAIN.
JUST IGNORE THIS, CAPTAIN!
IT'S NOT RIGHT TO DECIDE WHO GETS TO BE CAPTAIN THIS WAY!
KUSO!

KUSO IS A SWEARWORD

PRONOUNCED 'HONMA' IT'S THE CAPTAIN'S NAME

POCHI IS A LITTLE PUP OR DOG

SHEESH! AFTER KAZAMATSURI CAME, MIZUNO AND THE WHOLE CLUB HAS TURNED WEIRD...
BEFORE THIS WE ALL GOT ALONG FINE --
AND EVEN BEFORE THE TOURNAMENT STARTS, MIZUNO'S CRAZY TRAINING REGIME MIGHT BE THE DEATH OF YOU!
BUT IT'S ONLY A MONTH TIL THE TOURNAMENT. EVEN IF YOU GUYS PARTICIPATE, YOU WON'T GET ANYWHERE!
OI, FRESHMEN! CONGRATULATIONS ON BECOMING STARTERS!
DON'T TAKE WHAT THEY SAY SERIOUSLY.
GATA
AH

KYU MEANS HES GRABBING THE BALL

THANKS ALOT GUYS!
THAT GUY JUST DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO BE DIPLOMATIC.
THEY'D NATURALLY GET ANGRY SOMEONE LIKE YOU IS JUST TOO BLUNT
LIKE DUH, WHEN YOU SAY TO SOMEONE "YOUR SOCCER SKILLS SUCK".
SOCCER CLUB
BASKETBALL CLUB
AH, GOMEN! I'VE INTRUDED HERE TOO LONG.
HOW LONG ARE YOU PLANNING TO HANG AROUND HERE?
S.JOSU

GOMEN IS A CASUAL WAY OF SAYING SORRY.

HIS SKILL MATCHES MIZUNO'S. HE MIGHT EVEN BE BETTER... ALL I KNOW IS THAT HE'S AS FICKLE AS THEY COME.
BUT HE IMMEDIATELY LEFT THE CLUB.
HE'S SOPHOMORE SATO SHIGEKI, HE USED TO BE IN THE SOCCER CLUB.
EH?
WHO WAS THAT THICK-SKINNED GUY?
AND NOW ...

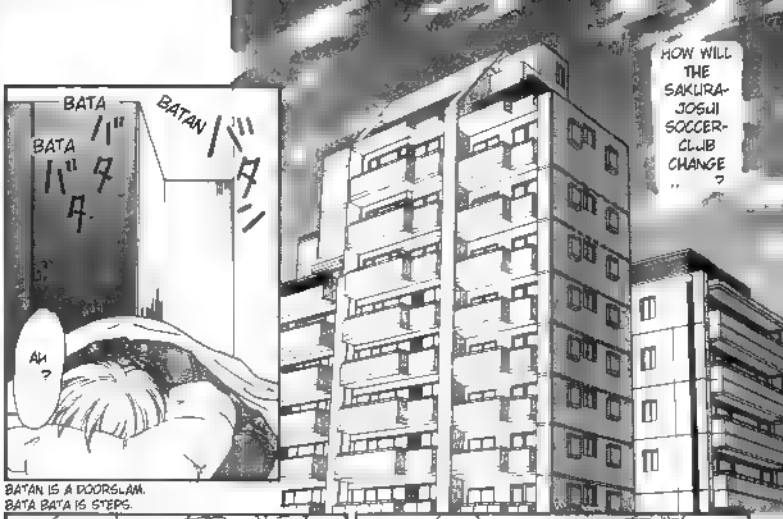
THICK-SKINNED MEANS "HES SHAMELESS"

PRACTICE SCHEDULE
ON THE MORNING?
RUNNING
NINE-GAME (1-ON-1 • 2-ON-2)
SHOOTING PRACTICE
COURING AFTERNOON BREAK?
BALL MANIPULATING PRACTICE
AFTER SCHOOL?
RUN 20 ROUNDS AROUND THE FIELD
CALISTHENICS
IMPROVING BALL CONTROL CLIPTING LOOP
HAND-PASS • SCORING-HEADERS PRACTICE
1-GAME (5-ON-5)
PRACTICE
30 ROUNDS SHIFT ATTACK

WOW... THIS KIND OF TRAINING SCHEDULE IS KILLER!
IT SEEMS I CAN'T REALLY GET ALONG WITH PEOPLE.
I DON'T THINK THESE PRACTICES ARE OUT OF THE ORDINARY
I'M NOT SURPRISED THAT THE SENIORS WANT TO QUIT THE CLUB.
HAI!
LET'S START TRAINING.
FRESHMEN!

HAI IS AN AFFIRMATIVE. LIKE YES OR OK

IT'S TRUE. THE ONLY ONES LEFT ARE THE SUBSTITUTES AND ONE PERSON EACH FROM FIRST AND SECOND YEAR, MAKING IT SEVEN ALTOGETHER.
I HEARD THAT PRACTICALLY ALL THE FRESHMEN HAVE RESIGNED.
MIZUNO
HYO!
HYO INDICATES THAT TAKA POPS UP
HE CAME TO ME AS WELL...
KAZAMATSURI CAME TO MY HOUSE, AND ASKED FOR THE ADDRESSES OF THOSE WHO WITHDREW
YESTERDAY
WE'LL HAVE TO GET SOME NEW MEMBERS.
!
HE'S PLANNING TO GO TO THE EX-MEMBERS ONE BY ONE AND TRY TO CONVINCE THEM TO COME BACK.



BATAN IS A DOORSLAM.
BATA BATA IS STEPS.

BO MEANS TO BE LOW ON ENERGY LETHARGIC.

BATAN
WAIT ...
LISTEN UP, FATTY!
WHY ..?
AFTER ALL, HE LIKES SOCCER ...
I...
I REALLY WANT TO PLAY SOCCER
B BUT,
EVERY-ONE'S AGREED ON THIS.
DON'T BETRAY US.
GURI GURI MEANS "TO GIVE NOOGIES".
YOU WANT TO PLAY SOCCER? FATTIES SHOULD LEARN SUMO INSTEAD!
GO-MEN
GURI GURI
HEY, FATTY'S GOT NO RIGHT TO TALK!

WHO IS IT?
KACHA
THIS IS ALREADY THE TENTH HOUSE I'VE BEEN TO AND I HAVEN'T PERSUADED A SINGLE PERSON YET
I
OH YEAH! I HAVE TO GO FOR MY EXTRA TUITION CLASS ...
I
YOU ...

BUT DON'T YOU LIKE SOCCER?
YEAH, I REALLY LIKE IT.
ONCE, I EVEN DREAMED OF BEING A PRO PLAYER.
BUT IN REALITY, IT'S NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO ACHIEVE THAT, EVER.
SO I JOINED THE SOCCER CLUB TO SATISFY MY PASSION, BUT NOW WITH THAT MIZUNO...

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT ISN'T COOL...
IT'S NOT COOL, TO STRUGGLE POINTLESSLY...
...TO USE ALL YOUR STRENGTH TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH THE IMPOSSIBLE, IT JUST LOOKS REALLY BAD.
BUT MIZUNO WORKS HARD, TOO...
THE TALENTED CAN'T EMPATHIZE WITH THE FEELINGS OF AVERAGE PEOPLE LIKE US.

TOBO
TOBO
NORO-KUN!
TO SAY TO YOU
I HAVE SOME-THING
DYU!
SA
ANPAN
ANPAN IS A RED BEAN BREAD
...CARE ABOUT ME?
WHY DOES KAZAMATSURI...

I'VE ALREADY DECIDED TO JOIN A DIFFERENT CLUB.

KAZA-MATSU-RI-SEM-PAI!
BA

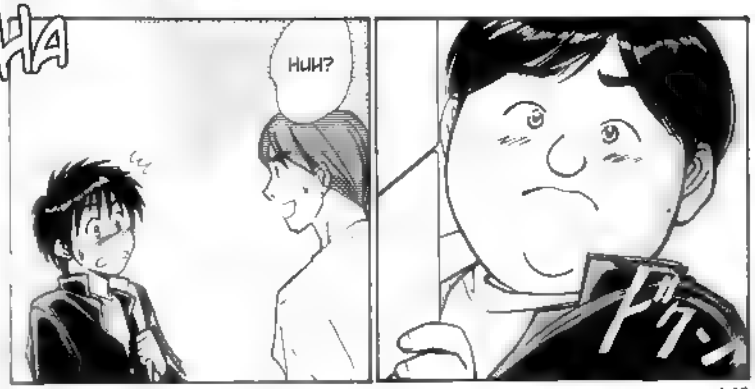
I'VE HEARD THAT HE'S VISITED THE EX-MEMBERS ONE BY ONE,
THIS HOME S ONE OF THE SEMPAI SOPHO-MORE'S.

WAS THAT ALL?
AH!
OUCH!
BAKO
I... I'M SORRY!
GOMEN, IT WAS NOTHING!

...
MAKE SURE TO WORK HARD, TOO!
WHEN YOU'VE JOINED A DIFFERENT CLUB ...

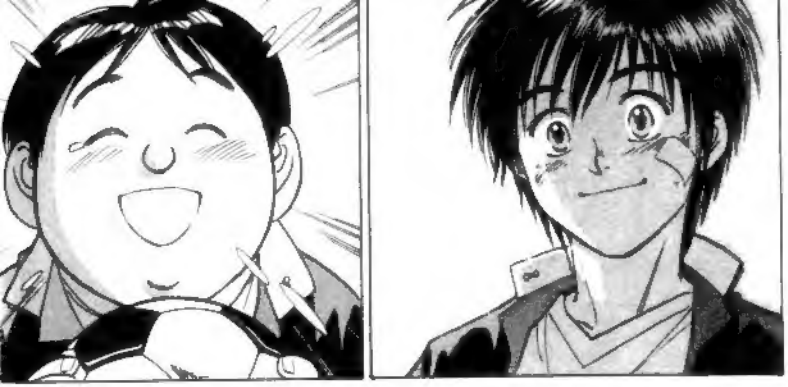
SA
さっ
SA
UH... YEAH.

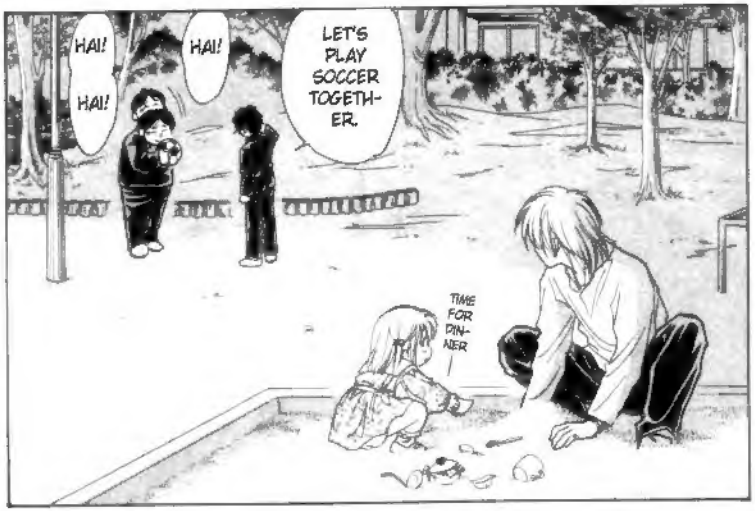
LIKE ME,
I DON'T MIND BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP ON THE FUTURE!


HA
HUH?
ドクン

WHEN THE BALL IS ALL DIRTY LIKE THIS, DOES IT PUT PEOPLE OFF PLAYING?
ATA
FU TA
ATA FUTA MEANS HASTILY
KUSO! KUSO!
WIPE IT CLEAN
KYU
KYU
KYU
KYU
I MUST GET THESE STUBBORN STAINS WIPED OFF.
AH ...
.....
THERE!
PEKA
I KNOW BECAUSE I NOTICED THAT YOU'RE HAPPY EVEN WHEN CLEANING THE BALLS OR DOING TOUGH JOBS.
YOU LIKE SOCCER, DON'T YOU?
I'M USED TO THIS, SINCE I USED TO DO IT A LOT IN MUSASHINO-MORI.
WOW!

WAS THIS BALL ABAN-DONED 'CAUSE IT WAS TOO OLD AND DIRTY?
OK.
LET ME.
I CAN'T GET IT CLEAN.
GOSHI
GOSHI





1 BREAK THROUGH(END)

AZEN MEANS SPEECHLESS WITH AMAZEMENT

風祭功
KŌ KAZAMATSURI

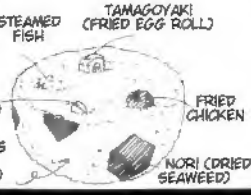
PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	1975.2.18
SIZE	182cm 68kg
BLOOD TYPE	O
FAVORITE FOOD	KOREAN GRILLED MEAT STEWED VEGETABLES
DISLIKED FOOD	DURIAN ***
INTERESTS & ABILITIES	READING ALL KIND OF BOOKS HANDLING ANY-THING PERFECTLY

香取夕子
YŪKO KATORI

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	1974.12.5
SIZE	163cm 50kg
BLOOD TYPE	O
FAVORITE FOOD	GINGER ROAST PORK CHOCOLATE CAKE
DISLIKED FOOD	MUSHROOM
INTERESTS & ABILITIES	COLLECTING EAR-RINGS, DESTROYING THINGS, MAKING RASH STATEMENTS, BEING ABSENT-

Q ALSO, I'LL ANSWER OTHER QUESTIONS

Q WHAT WAS IN THE ONIGIRI (RICEBALL) THAT KOU-ONII MADE?



Q: WHAT'S SHO'S FAMILY SITUATION LIKE?

A: THIS IS A SECRET. IN THE FURURE IT WILL BE REVEALED THROUGHOUT THE STORY.

SIX-SIDED NORI IS PRETTY RARE. ISN'T IT?

DAI SUKE NOTE

Q MANY READERS HAVE WRITTEN TO ASK ABOUT THE CHARACTERS DATA. HERE, THEY'LL BE INTRODUCED

風祭將
SHO KAZAMATSURI

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	1984.5.10
SIZE	146cm 40kg
BLOOD TYPE	A
FAVORITE FOOD	CURRY RICE FRIED CHICKEN AMERICAN-PANCAKE
DISLIKED FOOD	SEA CUCUMBER *
INTERESTS & ABILITIES	SOCCER BEING ABLE TO SLEEP ANYWHERE

水野龍也
TATSUYA MIZUNO

PERSONAL DATA	
BIRTHDAY	1984.11.30
SIZE	167cm 56kg
BLOOD TYPE	AB
FAVORITE FOOD	ITALIAN PASTA CHEESKAKE
DISLIKED FOOD	NATTO **
INTERESTS & ABILITIES	PLAYING WITH HIS DOG ANGERING PEOPLE

* is a kind of dried sea slug.
** is fermented soybean condiment.
*** is an asian fruit (http://www.durian.net)

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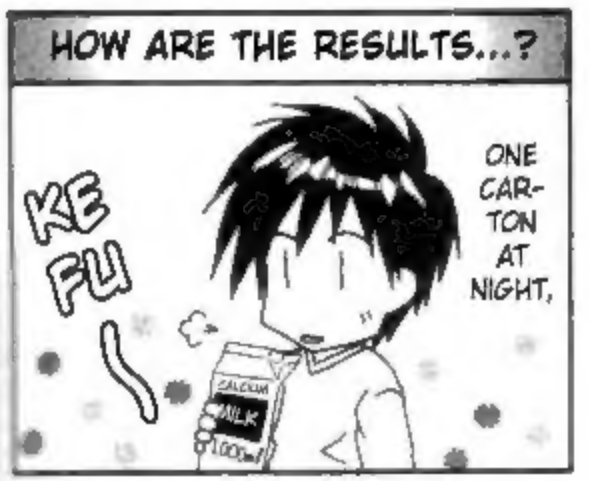
TO BE CONTINUED IN VOLUME 2.

...
OR MAYBE
...

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR THE LIVELY 4-FRAME COMICS!



WHISTLE!
THE THEATRE!!

DRAWN BY MANGA HELPER S